

# Lawson likely to stand firm on BP issue

## Chancellor 'surprised' by underwriters' plea

● The Chancellor of the Exchequer made it clear that he expects the BP flotation to go ahead despite requests from underwriters for a postponement.

● Mr Lawson said that the Government is maintaining pressure on the United States to take action to restore confidence in the international markets.

● Share prices rose in London, Wall Street and on European and Asian stockmarkets after concerted buying in Tokyo set a better tone.

● The dollar dropped to its lowest level against the mark for seven years and the pound rose above \$1.70 in New York.

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, gave a clear signal yesterday that the Government intends to press ahead with the £7.2 billion British Petroleum issue.

He told the Commons that he hoped to make a decision by tomorrow on the plea by the financial institutions underwriting the deal to withdraw it.

But he said that he had been surprised by the approach by the underwriters on Monday to the Treasury to terminate the offer for sale.

His carefully chosen response, in a statement demanded by the Opposition, was taken by Conservative and Labour MPs as the broadest possible hint that the Government would not be swayed.

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## New care scheme for hospitals

Patients will receive more care from hospital consultants and better round-the-clock care from doctors under a plan announced by the Government yesterday.

Hospital consultants will be increased from the present 16,600 to 22,300 by the year 2000.

The British Medical Association hailed the plan as a watershed.

It said that while the overall number of hospital doctors would not increase, patient care would improve because consultants would have a bigger commitment on the wards.

The plan, issued by the DHSS, the Joint Consultants' Committee and chairman of regional health authorities, follows concern over the number of highly trained doctors who never win consultant status.

## Defence call

Britain and its six European partners in the Western European Union have called for a "cohesive European defence identity".

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## Assets freed

Mr Anthony Parnes, the London stockbroker, has had assets of £3.69 million unfrozen in the High Court after reaching a settlement with Guinness over payments arising from the takeover of Distillers.

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## Robson plea

Bobby Robson has named his squad and warned them to be on their best behaviour for the vital European Championship game in Belgrade on November 11.

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## Portfolio Gold

● The Times Portfolio Gold daily competition prize of £4,000 was shared by two readers yesterday.

Details, page 3.

● Portfolio list, page 29.

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## Markets show signs of recovery

By Kenneth Fleet

A measure of composure returned to world stock markets yesterday, though the atmosphere remained tense. Some concerted buying by big investors in Tokyo raised Japanese share prices and set the tone for a better performance in Hong Kong, on European markets, London and Wall Street.

After a day of fluctuations within narrow limits, the FTSE 100 share index finished 19.2 higher, at 1735.3. The FT 30 share index closed 14.9 up at 1332. Wall Street, where the Dow Jones Industrial Average put on 41.6 points at 1835.54, helped to sustain London's modest recovery when it showed signs of flagging after a bright start.

Even small gains at this stage are apt to breed hopes that the worst of the crash is now past. But there is no evidence yet that major investors either in the United States or in Britain are ready to re-enter the market in force and bid up prices.

The main talking point in the City remained the £7.2 billion BP share issue, which dealers, taking their cue from the Chancellor of the Exchequer's statement in the Commons yesterday, now believe will go ahead.

BP shares fell another 6p to 259p, with 4 million shares changing hands. This compares with a price of 330p for

New York - Another investor has committed suicide after losing so much that he could not repay his stockbroker (Charles Bremner writes). Mr Vernon Lamberg, thought to have lost \$500,000 (£308,000) passed himself in a motel. ● MIAMI: Arthur Kane, who shot dead his stockbroker and then killed himself, was believed to have lost nearly \$5 million (Alan Tomlinson writes).

The new shares, and 350p immediately before markets began their precipitous fall less than two weeks ago.

The underwriters, who are obliged to take up unsold stock, and some 100,000 private shareholders and BP employees who have applied for shares face the prospect of large, instant losses.

Depending on the market's course over the coming weeks and months, there is a serious risk that large numbers of BP shares will be dumped. This would depress the price further and raise doubts over investors' willingness to pay the second instalment of 105p due next August. Applications for BP shares close today.

In the gilt-edged market prices fell quite sharply, on the theory that if the BP issue were postponed it would mean that the Government would have to raise the revenue foregone by selling more government stock. The falls were reduced after Mr Lawson's statement.

The most significant movement was in the foreign exchange market, where the US dollar dropped to its lowest level against the West German mark since 1980. Dealers decided that the absence of central bank support for the American currency showed that the monetary authorities had collectively agreed that the dollar should fall further. It dropped a penny to DM1.7625, and from Y142.15 to Y141.45 in London. Later in New York it fell to DM1.7575 and Y141.15. The pound was up to \$1.6955.

All eyes are on President Reagan's talks with Congressional leaders. The Administration is being pressured to reduce the \$170 billion Federal Budget deficit by more than the scheduled \$23 billion.

At home there was an encouraging Quarterly Trends survey from the Confederation of British Industry, and some cautiously but also optimistic words from the National Economic Development Office.

## The IRA's graduate bomb maker



Gilbert McNamee, the Provisional IRA's most sophisticated bomb-maker, pictured in his graduation robes.

## Explosions mastermind gets 25 years

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

The Provisional IRA's most sophisticated bomb-maker, linked by police to 10 London bombings including the Hyde Park, Regent's Park and Harrods attacks, was sentenced to 25 years' imprisonment at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Gilbert McNamee, a science graduate aged 27, was arrested in his home at Crossmaglen, Co. Armagh, last August. Police intelligence operations had revealed he was about to play a key part in a Provisional IRA attack on a special target in Northern Ireland.

A fingerprint matched to a mark on a bomb cache in Britain provided the evidence for arrest.

McNamee, an expert in timed devices and booby trap bombs as well as radio-controlled bombs devices, is linked to up to 80 bombs on the British mainland and in Northern Ireland.

His devices were responsible for the deaths of at least 30 soldiers, police and civilians but some estimates put the toll at anything up to 80 deaths.

Yesterday McNamee stood expressionless as he was convicted of conspiring to cause explosions in Britain between 1982 and 1984 with three members of an active service unit jailed two years ago.

Sentencing him at the end of a trial surrounded by extensive security measures, Mr Justice McCowan said: "I can have no doubt that when you took part in that conspiracy

you knew very well that the pretty well inevitable result of what you did would be that life would be endangered.

"This is a very serious offence. You must be seriously punished."

He made the device used to kill four soldiers in Hyde Park in July 1982, the court was told.

McNamee's conviction is regarded by Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist branch as one of the most important they have achieved.

Police believe that McNamee made the devices across the border from his home in Crossmaglen. They point out that since his arrest last August the rate of bombing has fallen.

His fingerprint was found on a battery left on a bomb defused in Kensington in December 1983 and on tape round two devices uncovered in comprehensive arms and explosives caches in Berkshire and Northamptonshire.

During the two week trial McNamee, a graduate of Queen's University, Belfast, gave evidence in his own defence and told the court he abhorred violence. Describing himself as an Irish nationalist and not a republican he said he had carried his own father to an ambulance after a bar was bombed in 1975.

## Protest threatens Belgian ports

By Ruth Gledhill in London and Susan MacDonald in Boulogne

Thousands of ferry passengers face disruption today as the French fishermen's blockade threatened light night to spread to most French and Belgian ports.

The action is almost certain to become widespread along the French and Belgian coastline if the fishermen's talks with the French government fail to resolve the dispute.

The blockade spread from Boulogne and Calais to Dunkirk and Dieppe yesterday afternoon, forcing ferry companies to cancel dozens of services and divert passengers to the Belgian ports of Zeebrugge and Ostend.

Further chaos is predicted today if Belgian fishermen carry out their threat to join the French blockade, and the French blockade extends to Le Havre and Cherbourg as some ferry officials were suggesting.

This would effectively strand thousands of British ferry passengers on the Continent until the end of the day.

Last night, about 80 fishing boats lined up across the entrance to the port of Boulogne, allowing only emergency vessels through and the occasional freight vessel late.

Calais was blocked by 20 fishing boats and dozens more were believed to be heading for Dunkirk and Dieppe. Most of the boats in the blockade came from Boulogne, said Mr Gerard Barron, information officer at the port of Calais.

Ferry companies in Britain were unable to calculate the cost of the protest yesterday, but most sailings to Calais and Boulogne were cancelled and sailings to other ports were affected towards the end of the day.

As the blockade moved in on Dieppe, a Sealink ferry to Newhaven was stranded in the French port. More than 200 passengers, 18 cars and three coaches waited at the terminal to hear if the blockade would lift after the results of talks were known.

P&O European Ferries, formerly Townsend Thoresen, cancelled all of its 10 sailings each way between Dover and Calais and eight each way between Dover and Boulogne.

Sealink cancelled six sailings each way between Folkestone and Boulogne and 16 each way between Dover and Calais. The company would normally have expected up to 6,000 passengers a day on each route.

It ran four sailings to Dieppe but cancelled the last five.

The Sally Line successfully ran its first service from Ramsgate to Dunkirk but cancelled the two following services.

The French fishermen are protesting against what they see as an infringement of their fishing rights by Britain.

On October 1 Britain extended her territorial waters under the Territorial Sea Act 1987 and effectively barred French fishermen from areas

Continued on page 24, col 2

## Back-bench anger over child benefit

By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent

Conservative and Labour backbenchers yesterday criticized a Government announcement that child benefit paid to seven million families is to be frozen to target assistance to those most in need.

The protests from the Conservative back benches were led by Sir Ian Gilmour, the former Cabinet Minister, who described the decision as "highly insensitive" and "discrimination pure and simple, against families with young children".

His anger at the announcement by Mr John Moore, the Secretary of State for Social Services, was followed by several other critical interventions from Conservative MPs.

The Government may face grave problems if women in Conservative constituencies and backbenchers from both the left and right of the party manage to mount a strong

campaign of opposition to the proposal.

The decision to freeze child benefit at £7.25 a child was made with proposals to increase the retirement pensions of married couples and single people in line with inflation from next April.

A married couple's pension will rise from £63.25 a week to £65.90, and a single person's from £39.50 to £41.15.

Supplementary benefit is to be replaced by a simpler income support and the family income supplement will be replaced by a family credit benefit, which will be means tested.

Mr Robin Cook, the shadow Cabinet spokesman on health and social security, described the proposals as a

Continued on page 24, col 7

## Police remove Ibrox video from Scottish TV

By Roddy Forsyth

Police in Glasgow yesterday visited the headquarters of Scottish Television and removed a video recording of the Rangers-Celtic match at Ibrox on October 17 during which three players, the Rangers goalkeeper Chris Woods, the captain Terry Butcher and the Celtic forward Frank McAvennie, were sent off.

Last week Glasgow's procurator fiscal, the official responsible for prosecuting under Scottish law, asked police to carry out an inquiry into incidents on and off the field during the game at which 62 people were arrested, mostly for minor offences.

A police spokesman last night confirmed that the removal of the film was intended to assist the investigation.

Scottish Television was first asked on Monday for a copy of the original recording of the match, and not the highlights broadcast afterwards. The company declined the request and suggested that a formal procedure would be preferable.

An STV spokesman said last night: "Our difficulty lay partly in the fact that although the actual tape belonged to us, the contents were the copyright of the Scottish Football League whose interest in the matter is also strong.

"We were again visited by police today, this time bearing a warrant, and we complied with their request to surrender the tape but there was no question of a raid. It was a polite transaction."

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## NEWS SUMMARY

## Accused found guilty of rape

A former handyman accused with two other men of murdering four members of a Hampshire family and their nurse was convicted of robbing them, and of rape, by a jury at Winchester Crown Court last night.

After a three-week trial George Stephenson, aged 36, of Elgar Road, Coventry, was found guilty of robbery on September 1 last year at Burgate House, Fordingbridge, Hampshire, the home of Mr Joseph Cleaver and his wife, Hilma, both aged 82. He was also found guilty of the rape of Mrs Wendy Cleaver, aged 46, the Cleavers' daughter-in-law.

George Daly, aged 25, of Deedmore Road, Coventry was also found guilty of the same offences, which both men had denied. Daly's brother John Daly, aged 21, has pleaded guilty to rape.

The jury was unable to agree on murder charges against all three men and will continue deliberations today.

## Ruling reserved

The House of Lords reserved its decision yesterday on whether the families of the 44 crew lost when the bulk carrier Derbyshire sank off Japan in 1980 can claim for compensation against the owners.

The families seek to reverse a Court of Appeal ruling blocking their claim under the 1969 Employers' Liability (Defective Equipment) Act by convincing the Law Lords that a ship can legally be classed as "equipment".

## Tribute to rescuers

Townsend Thoresen, which became P & O European Ferries six days ago, paid tribute yesterday to almost 400 Belgians and Britons who took part in the Herald of Free Enterprise rescue operation.

Sir Jeffrey Sterling, chairman of P & O, was host at a reception and luncheon aboard the Frigate of Dover, moored close to the berth at Zeebrugge used by the Herald before her tragic voyage last March.

He presented a silver plate to Mr Olivier Vanneste, the governor of West Flanders. Among guests who received medals showing the Channel coastlines were members of the Belgian and British armed forces, the police and emergency services, and the Zeebrugge port authority.

## Argyle to retire

Judge Argyle, QC, the outspoken Central Criminal Court judge, is to retire next year.

Judge Argyle, aged 72, a former army major, had kept the date secret until yesterday. He disclosed the date when he decided to hear the case of an alleged woman pickpocket on July 8. "That is my last day as a judge, assuming I live that long", he said.

Judge Argyle has rarely been out of the headlines since taking over his Central Criminal Court duties in 1970.

## New prison lifestyle

A new prison wing to house prisoners, including sex offenders, who may be attacked by other inmates is nearing completion at Channings Wood Prison, near Newton Abbot, Devon.

Each of the 56 prisoners in the unit will have their own cell and will be able to work in a greenhouse or workshop. Mr John Home, head of custody at the 482-prisoner jail, said: "The prisoners in the new unit will have more freedom. Their lifestyle will be transformed."

## Royal apples on sale

The Queen's Sandringham Fruit Farm began selling "windfall" apples to the public at the knock-down price of 10p a pound yesterday.

Twenty tonnes of apples were blown off trees in the recent gale. The royal orchards will be open until Sunday night for pick-your-own visitors.

## Base Rate

BCC announces that from 28th October, 1987 its base rate is changed from 10% to 9.50% p.a.

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## EEC gives £73m to develop industry in regions

By Ronald Farr  
Employment Affairs  
Correspondent

EEC regional grants of more than £73 million have been made to 14 major investments in industry and infrastructure in Britain.

The allocations from the European Regional Development Fund, announced yesterday, include £14.6 million for five projects in the North-west, including the construction of a new railway line between Manchester Piccadilly in the south-east of the city and Manchester Victoria for routes to the north-west.

At Ellesmere Port, Cheshire, a grant of £1.6 million has been made towards the extension of a container terminal to accommodate the bigger ships on the Mediterranean and Iberian run. The investment could safeguard about 200 jobs at the port and many other jobs that depend on the shipping trade.

In the West Midlands, a grant of £3.6 million has been made towards a section of the Birmingham middle ring road, which connects the M6 with numerous industrial firms and sites.

Three projects in Scotland have received £10.3 million in grants, including £3.3 million for a new ferry to improve tourist and commercial traffic on the Oban-Mull-Colonsay run.

The South-west receives £8 million in grants towards projects, including an electricity cable link to the Isles of Scilly, allowing tariffs to be reduced to mainland levels and helping to stimulate the islands' economy.

In Northern Ireland, the conversion of Kilroot Power Station to dual oil and coal firing has been allocated

£23.8 million. It is the biggest single grant ever awarded to the province and an important step towards reducing a total dependence on oil.

In Wales, a £10 million grant has been made for the construction of the central link of the Cardiff peripheral distributor road built by South Glamorgan County Council.

Three Labour-controlled inner-city authorities have joined forces in a Government supported attempt to create jobs. The Manchester, Salford and Trafford authorities are pressing for £181 million from the EEC to help fund a five-

year jobs strategy costing a total of £637 million. It is hoped that the balance will come from central government, statutory undertakings and the private sector.

Mr Graham Stringer, leader of Manchester City Council, said yesterday: "What makes this partnership unique is that it brings together three local authorities which have different approaches to regeneration." The policies of left wing-led Manchester City Council were normally at odds with the more moderate Salford and Trafford councils.

● An inner-city task force in

Bristol has set up a new scheme to show unskilled jobless people how to build their own homes and improve their chances of employment.

The co-ordinator of the project is Mr Chris Gordon, aged 27, who five years ago was one of 12 unemployed young people who built a block of flats.

Mr Gordon is the first full-time co-ordinator for self-build projects in Britain. As head of the Bristol Self-Build Development Agency, he has received £25,000 in aid from St Paul's Inner City Task Force.

## Government seeks to take control of teachers' pay

By John Clare, Education Correspondent

The Government is proposing to take powers to enable it to determine the pay and conditions of all 440,000 teachers in England and Wales.

The plan was outlined in a Green Paper presented to Parliament yesterday by Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science.

Mr Baker also announced that next year's pay rise for teachers is not to cost more than £300 million, equivalent to an average increase of 5 per cent and substantially less than the current average rise in non-manual earnings.

The Green Paper proposes a new body, the Teachers' Negotiating Group, to replace the Burnham committee which Mr Baker abolished last March. It will be a statutory committee on which the Government will have a majority of votes on the employers' side.

The rest will be distributed among the representatives of the 104 local education authorities, who will continue to employ the majority of teachers. The teachers will be represented by their six unions.

If a majority on both sides of the committee cannot agree on a settlement and one side is against going to arbitration,

the Government will have the power to impose its own terms, subject to parliamentary approval.

The Green Paper emphasises both the profusion of interests in education and the big proportion of public expenditure represented by teachers' pay. It adds that by 1990, when the rating system is due to be reformed, "a larger part of the teachers' pay bill will be funded by central grant than by locally determined taxation".

It says: "These considerations taken together lead the Government to conclude that the Secretary of State's representatives should have a majority of votes on the management side of the Teachers' Negotiating Group".

The proposals were condemned by Mr Neil Fletcher, chairman of the education committee of the Labour-controlled Association of Metropolitan Authorities. He said: "The freedom to negotiate freely with your employer is the hallmark of a democratic society. The new proposals will deny that to teachers. They are a disastrous recipe for continual conflict of the kind we have seen in the past few years."

The Green Paper also pro-

poses the introduction of regional variations in teachers' pay. Looking further ahead, it suggests that once schools have been given responsibility for their budgets they could take over the negotiation of pay and conditions of service on a school level.

Both proposals were condemned by the National Union of Teachers. It said the value of a teacher was the same "in Newham, Oxford or Cumberland".

The Green Paper rejects a national joint council suggested by the unions and local authorities as "likely to give rise to some of the same problems as the discredited Burnham committee".

It also rejects the independent review body proposed by, among others, the National Confederation of Parent Teacher Associations. It says there is no evidence that the majority of teachers would be prepared to commit themselves to abandoning the use of industrial action.

The decision to limit teachers' pay rises next year to £300 million was announced in a letter to Lord Chilver, chairman of the interim advisory committee. *Teachers' Pay and Conditions*, Cm 238 (HMSO, London; £4.50).

## Irish kidnapping

## Inquiry on gunmen's escape

By John Cooney

An embarrassed Irish justice minister ordered an inquiry yesterday into the failure of police to secure the release of Mr John O'Grady from his kidnappers at a remote hide-out in Co Cork.

Mr Gerry Collins was also angered that one of three getaway cars used by the gunmen was found abandoned early yesterday morning in the border town of Dundalk.

This location proved that at least one member of the kidnap gang or an accomplice had driven the virtual length of the Irish Republic in spite of a police and army road search.

Only last Friday, Mr Collins assured the Irish parliament that the gang which kidnapped Mr O'Grady, a dentist aged 38, would be caught, and that the government would not tolerate terrorists roaming around the country with impunity.

The police were accused by the Irish media of badly

bungling the rescue operation on Monday, in which detectives outnumbered the three kidnappers by at least five to one. The gunmen escaped with their handcuffed captive by shooting their way through a police cordon at a farmhouse near Middleton.

The escape has boosted the reputation of the man believed to be the gang's leader, Dessie O'Hare, the most wanted fugitive in Ireland. A former member of both the IRA and the INLA, O'Hare is said to operate as a freelance terrorist. He is known as "The Border Fox" and is also wanted by the Royal Ulster Constabulary in connection with a number of murders.

This latest exploit has reopened the controversy about the efficiency of the Irish police only a month after a senior RUC officer complained about the southern force's inexperience and lack of sophistication in dealing with cross-border terrorism. The most recent embarrass-

ment was the failure of the Irish police to capture a criminal gang in the Dublin mountains wanted in connection with the theft of paintings valued at £20 million from the world-renowned Beit collection.

Monday's escape has also focused attention on the fact that during the 1983 search for Don Tidy, the English-born supermarket executive, his kidnappers twice escaped from police before being caught.

However, the charge of police bungling was rejected by Mr O'Grady's father-in-law, the millionaire Dr Austin Darragh, who expressed on radio the family's "total and complete confidence in the police".

Mr O'Grady was abducted from his home in Dublin two weeks ago instead of Dr Darragh, the intended victim. The gang demanded a £300,000 ransom, but Dr Darragh has made clear that he has no intention of paying it.

## Saleroom

## Nero finds his followers

By Sarah Jane Checkland, Art Market Correspondent

If the Chancellor of the Exchequer is like Nero, fiddling while Rome burns, he is not alone. The entire art market seems to be with him, maintaining an eerie state of buoyancy.

Yesterday, Christie's London sold a twentieth century nettsuke for the world record price of £12,100. Meanwhile, Phillips' auctioneers were marvelling at the prices raised by both Old Master paintings and Art Nouveau ceramics.

Nettsukes originated in Japan as toggles to fasten the kimono, and to act as counterweights for keys and purses.

Nowadays, the modern Japanese gentleman has no use for them, but craftsmen go on carving them, and, as this sale from the collection of the Californian Raymond Bushell shows, collectors go on buying them.

Symbolically, the highest price was for a nettsuke carved as an Amagasaki doll - a kind of amulet which used to be placed near the head of a newborn child to draw any potential bad fortune away from it. Although it was bought anonymously, quite a number of the highest lots were bought by the London firm of Ekenaz.

The final total for the 300-lot nettsuke sale was £813,417 - just over the estimated target.

Over at Phillips's, Mr Brian Koester, the Old Masters expert, appeared to be swooning at the high price raised by a painting of the Madonna and Child he had catalogued as by a "Follower of Titian".

According to the catalogue, this places the work low on the authenticity scale, below "attributed to" and "style of" and "circle of". But, estimated at £2,000 to £3,000, it sold for £20,900.



Mr Mitchell (left) and M Douffignies in Kent yesterday in front of a mock up of a Channel Tunnel train (Photograph: Tim Bishop).

## French unhappy with 'slow' tunnel links

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

The French gave a warning yesterday that they could not be satisfied with British Rail links to the Channel Tunnel which travelled at only half the speed of trains linking Paris with the tunnel.

M Jacques Douffignies, the French transport minister, was visiting the site of the British entrance to the tunnel at Shakespeare Cliff, near Folkestone, for the first time. He had travelled from London to Ashford by rail with Mr David Mitchell, the Minister of State for Transport.

Mr Mitchell said he thought that M Douffignies had been surprised at the length and narrowness of tunnels, the difficulty of the terrain and the extent of urban sprawl, all of which made the construction of a high speed railway line from Dover to London much more difficult and expensive

than building a line across northern France.

Mr Mitchell also pointed out that the French link to the Channel tunnel would be a spur of a network linking Paris to Brussels, Amsterdam and Cologne, which gave economic advantages which a single line through south-east England would not.

M Douffignies said he appreciated the difficulties, but it was not possible to be satisfied for ever with average train speeds from Dover to London of under 70 mph.

He said the French trains would be able to travel from Paris to Calais, about 205 miles, in little more time than trains in Britain travelled the 74 miles from Dover to London.

British Rail have plans to increase the maximum speed on some sections of the route from 90 to 100 mph.

## Kasparov dejected by draw

From Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent, Seville

The close of a World Championship game was greeted with absolutely no applause for the first time in my experience at the end of the sixth match on Monday night.

The Spanish spectators were clearly disenchanted with the lack of action in Gary Kasparov's attempted comeback after his disastrous defeat in game five.

Kasparov, playing white, once again chose the English opening and speedily built up a promising position by advancing on the Queen's wing. He then concentrated his forces against Anatoly Karpov's weaknesses in that sector.

However things began to go badly for the champion after this promising and aggressive

start. On move 23 he inexplicably rejected the active move Bc5, favouring a passive retreat instead. Then, on move 24, Kasparov chose to consolidate his pawn structure instead of bringing another piece into the attack by means of Nxb3.

Karpov adroitly moved to a drawn ending of bishops and knights. The disappointed champion offered the draw when playing his twenty-eighth move and it was briskly accepted.

At the end of the game, faced by the resolute silence of the audience, Kasparov sat for several minutes staring dejectedly at the board.

The score is three and a half points to Karpov and two and a half points to Kasparov.

White	Black	White	Black
Kasparov	Karpov	Kasparov	Karpov
1 G4	e5	15 Qd4	f5
2 Nc3	Nc6	16 Nf2	Nf7
3 Bf1	e6	17 Rf3	Rd8
4 Bg2	O-O	18 Rb1	Rd8
5 Rf1	Bf5	19 Rd3	Rd8
6 Bc2	Qd7	20 Qe2	Nf8
7 Bb1	Bg7	21 Bb4	Rf8
8 Nf3	Nf6	22 Ne4	Kf7
9 Nd5	O-O	23 Bc3	Rf8
10 Bc6	b6	24 exd3	Qd7
11 Nc3	Ne7	25 Bc2	Bd8
12 Bb3	O-O	26 Qe5	Qe5
13 Nf3	b6	27 Bxe6	Ne6
14 O-O	Bb6	28 Bb4	draw

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# Graduate who mastered art of killing



July 20, 1982, Regent's Park, eight died: an injured handman is comforted. July 20, 1982, Hyde Park, three soldiers and seven horses died. A car bomb was detonated as cavalymen passed by.

A victim of the 1983 Harrods bombing.

## 'IRA recognized McNamee's talent and encouraged him'

The Army bomb disposal team inched painstakingly for hours along a South Armagh road towards a triple booby-trapped bomb built round a petrol tanker and 700lbs of explosive. As they worked for six days late in October 1984, IRA men watched through binoculars from across the Irish border.

Police believe one of those observers was Gilbert 'Danny' McNamee, a science graduate nurtured through university by the Provisionals, and convicted yesterday as one of the greatest of the IRA bomb-makers.

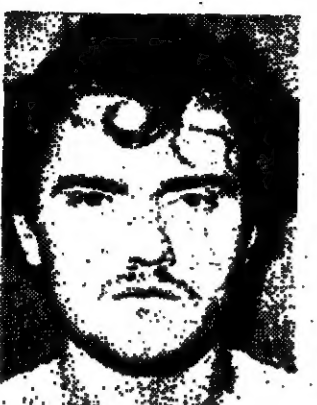
When the soldiers finished and the device was finally made safe the Royal Ulster Constabulary could only describe it as "fiendish". It had taken the expertise of the Army's chief bomb expert in Ulster and one of the largest explosives operations ever mounted in the province to defeat McNamee.

But it was a small defeat for the quiet, slightly built, man credited by police with making up to 80 bombs that have killed or wounded scores of people in Northern Ireland and London.

It is said by Scotland Yard detectives to be one of the most important convictions they have achieved in the long battle with the Provisionals.

Detectives say they do not believe McNamee made the bomb that devastated the Grand Hotel in Brighton during the Conservative Party conference but a long-term device in an explosives cache linked to McNamee disappeared before the attack.

McNamee is, however, held



Gilbert McNamee: nurtured through university.

charged by the Garda early in 1984 with offences involving circuit boards and explosives but was freed to continue his work when the case against him was dropped.

A second court case collapsed a year later but by then he had become the target of a long-term surveillance operation.

Although McNamee was a child of the "troubles", there was for years little to rouse the curiosity of the Garda, the RUC or MI5. The short-sighted McNamee seemed to lead a blameless life.

In retrospect it seems McNamee had made a compact with the IRA. He was under orders to maintain a low profile.

During his trial, McNamee emphasized that he and his father were Irish nationalists and not republicans. Two of his cousins were killed by the IRA as police informers but he never mentioned another cousin, Patrick McNamee, who was sentenced to eight years in jail in Dublin in 1982 for explosives offences.

The point of McNamee's own recruitment is not known but in 1975 his father, Thomas, died after a public house bombing in Crossmaglen.

There might have been pressure for the older children to go out and work for the family but McNamee stayed at school, prompting speculation that the IRA recognized a potential talent and encouraged him.

He left the Abbey Grammar School at Newry with 10 O levels and three A levels

bound for Imperial College, London, to read electrical engineering in the autumn of 1979. He stayed only four days before returning to Northern Ireland to read physics at Queen's University, Belfast. Imperial College has no record of the reason for the change.

Within a year of starting studies which included rudimentary electronics, bomb experts believe McNamee had in 1980 started to build the first of a dozen radio-controlled bombs that appeared in Ulster in the space of 18 months.

In his holidays he was returning to Crossmaglen and then crossing the border to work with a company in Dundalk specializing in amusement machines. The firm for which McNamee went to work, the Kimble Manufacturing Company, was run by two brothers, George and James McCann. George

McCann was given a three-year suspended sentence in France two weeks ago for arms smuggling linked to the Irish National Liberation Army (INLA) and his brother is wanted in Ulster as a member of the Provisionals.

Kimble Manufacturing made electronic poker games for arcades and McNamee worked behind that cover.

When the Maze hunger strike collapsed in the autumn of 1981, police believe it was his bombs that supplied an active service unit headed by Paul Kavanagh and Thomas Quigley and were used to spearhead a bloody autumn of attacks in London.

In the month that McNamee received his degree two of his bombs ripped through Hyde Park and Regent's Park in the ambush of a cavalry troop and a military band.

He denies ever returning to London after the abortive stay in 1979 but police suspect that he was back in the capital in 1983. A bomb defused in Phillimore Gardens, Kensington, west London was later discovered to have his print on a battery, and the position of the print suggests that the bomb-maker actually activated his device.

A second bomb left in Woolwich, south-east London also failed to do any damage but a few weeks later the Provisionals unleashed the Harrods bomb that killed five people in an attack one Saturday lunchtime in the run up to Christmas.

In January 1984 police mounted a surveillance operation on Kavanagh as he arrived from Dublin; it led them to a second cache in Salcey Forest in Northamptonshire.

A month after the Salcey find, McNamee discovered he was the centre of attention for the Garda. He was arrested with two others, one also a science graduate, on charges involving circuit boards and explosives. The case collapsed in May 1984 after one of the other defendants was acquitted. McNamee was free again but the police offensive did not stop. Early in 1985 Kavanagh, Quigley and a third man called Natalino Vella were convicted in London for their roles in the 1981 bombing campaign. Kavanagh and Quigley each received 35 years while Vella, who spoke at length to the police, got 15 years.

Their bomb maker was still free but then the Garda struck again.

McNamee was in court in Dublin in October 1985 on an

arms charge: the Irish court threw out the case on a technicality. However, McNamee, having escaped the Irish courts again, was about to see his luck change.

In January 1986 he was held under the Prevention of Terrorism Act by the security forces during a seemingly routine sweep in Crossmaglen. The object of his arrest was to take his fingerprints.

McNamee was released and heard nothing more but in London his prints were being matched against the thousands of prints recorded by police and taken from the scenes of terrorism.

In London a match had been made with a fingerprint on the piece of tape from the Salcey Forest cache. It was enough on which to hold him until the experts went on to discover more prints in the Pangbourne cache and on the battery at Phillimore Gardens.

Pure science had trapped the scientific bomb-maker.

## Science versus crime

Trapped by spots of sweat

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

A few ageing spots of sweat and animal fat invisible to the human eye convicted one of the IRA's key members yesterday. McNamee's conviction is the latest success for a specialist group of fingerprint officers at Scotland Yard dedicated to tracking down Provisional IRA terrorists since the early 1970s.

Since the IRA began its operations, the Yard has built up a vast library of fingerprints and partial prints recovered from parts of bombs, weapons and the hiding places of active service units uncovered by police.

In the 1970s, at the height of the IRA campaigns in mainland Britain, 250 fingerprint officers were involved in investigations in which over 30 million print comparisons were made, leading to 300 identifications linking 100 terrorists to attacks.

A year ago, the squad played a significant part in the conviction of Patrick Magee, after the Brighton bombing. They also provided evidence to convict two of McNamee's co-conspirators, Paul Kavanagh and Thomas Quigley, in 1985, and for the attempt to extradite Evelyn Glenholmes for her alleged part in London bombings.

The arms caches on which McNamee's prints were found

# Abraca d'abacus.

## Portfolio Gold

Oxford head a winner

The headmaster of New College preparatory school, Oxford, for the past 33 years, is one of two winners of the £4,000 Portfolio Gold prize.

Mr Alan Butterworth, aged 60, and his wife, Joy, live at the school in Savile Road, but they own an early nineteenth century house into which they are hoping to move after his retirement.

It is Mr Butterworth's first competition win, although his wife has won several Saturday crossword competitions in *The Times*, for which she received book tokens.

Mr Butterworth has no intention of replacing his car, an ageing MGB GT. Any spare money from his prize will be given to his two married daughters.

"The car keeps me young, and so there would never be any possibility of selling it for something more modern."

"We are both dazed after the win. It is just as well we are on half-term because my wife, who acts as my secretary, might not be fit for work, such is the excitement."

The other winner is Mr John Anderson, a retired merchant navy officer, of Cedars Park, Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, who wins £2,000 for the second time.

Portfolio Gold cards can be obtained by sending a stamped, addressed envelope to: Portfolio Gold, The Times, Blackburn, BB1 6AJ.

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## Police using decoy car to trap thieves

A computerized decoy car is being used by the Warwickshire police to trap car thieves, it was revealed yesterday.

The car is fitted with an immobilizing device which cuts the ignition and locks the reinforced doors and windows. A warning alarm then alerts a local police station.

The four-door family saloon is parked by the police in dimly-lit areas, making it an ideal target for thieves.

The Warwickshire police are using the vehicle to help combat a 70 per cent increase in car crimes.

Inspector David Fry, who is in charge of the operation, said: "Anyone attempting to steal it is in for a big surprise. They won't know how big until it's too late."



October 27 1987

## PARLIAMENT

## Chancellor says Britain is able to weather the financial storm

## Lawson promises early decision on the BP sale

Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, will reply by Thursday to the request from the BP share sale underwriters to terminate the sale. In a Commons statement he said that he had been surprised by the request.

He made clear that, under the terms of the sale, he was contractually bound to consider the application.

In his statement, which also covered the situation in the financial markets, he said that Britain's robust economic health put it in the best possible position to weather the storm.

In his private notice question, Mr John Smith, chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs, asked the Chancellor to make a statement on the financial situation and the consequences for the sale of BP shares.

Mr Lawson said that the sharp falls in share prices throughout the world over the past fortnight would tighten monetary conditions somewhat and were likely to have a dampening effect on world demand.

It was far too soon to put any figures on this, but he had already responded by reducing interest rates by 0.5 per cent and interest rates had also come down in the United States.

"I will, of course, continue to watch the situation closely and take whatever steps are required."

He was also in regular touch by telephone with his opposite numbers in the other main industrial countries.

"Meanwhile, the robust economic health and sound public finances which we have in this country — (Conservative cheers and Labour laughter) — put us in the strongest possible position to weather this storm, just as we successfully coped with the year-long coal strike and the collapse in the world oil prices."

As for the implications of the

stock market slide for the BP sale, there was provision under clause 8 of the BP fixed price underwriting agreement for the underwriters to seek consultation with the Treasury if most of them formed the opinion that there had been an adverse change of circumstances, as specified by the agreement, in the light of which they believed that they were no longer assuming a proper underwriting risk.

He had been informed by Mr Rothschild and Sons, on behalf of the UK underwriters, that a majority now took that view.

"They therefore sent a written representation to the Treasury yesterday afternoon seeking consultation with a view to

**Robust economic health puts us in strong position**

terminating the offer for sale. I have to say I was surprised by this (loud Labour laughter).

"I am now considering the points they have made, as I am contractually bound to do."

The underwriting agreement set out steps that must be followed for the consultation process to be triggered. The Treasury would consider the representations and consult BP.

Rothschilds would also seek BP's view. Rothschilds and the Treasury would then consult together. If they were unable to agree, they would jointly approach the Bank of England for its assessment.

"I will take full account of that assessment before I take a final decision."

"It is my intention to proceed as quickly as possible, consistent with the proper observation of the procedures. The House will understand that, now that the underwriters have invoked this consultation process, I cannot say more until the process is concluded, but I will gladly listen to the views of MPs."

Mr Smith said that Mr

Lawson should be ashamed that he had to be dragged reluctantly to the House to answer a private notice question when he should have volunteered a statement on his own initiative days ago.

It was clear that the fundamental reason for the collapse in international markets was the irresponsibility of governments, including the British Government, in facing up to the problems of the US deficit and the Japanese and German surpluses.

Instead of taking steps gradually to reduce the US trade deficit and simultaneously to expand other economies, governments staffed by people such as Mr Lawson, addicted to free market theories, had abandoned their responsibilities to markets, the activities of which the Chancellor had described as absurd, and which, according to the Prime Minister, were involved in 5 per cent trade and 95 per cent speculation.

"Does he understand that finally the free market chickens have come home to roost?"

The Government should now co-operate in setting up a new economic summit of the G7 countries to tackle the deficit problem in a way that would avoid recession, open up opportunities for growth and deal constructively with the debt problems of the developing world.

On the question of BP, would the Government explain why it had to take so long to go through the process that the Chancellor had outlined when Mr Lawson had made it crystal

**Free market chickens have come home to roost**

clear that he intended to hold the underwriters to their obligations?

Would it not be wiser, as they were only hours away from the close of the offer, for him to

show a little more urgency in the consultation? The Chancellor should have given a definitive answer today.

Whatever happened, would he confirm that the Government was obliged to purchase 450 million new shares at 330p and that the difference between the price at which it had committed itself to buy new shares and the present value in the markets was more than £300 million?

Would he also confirm that, whatever happened, £20 million would have been wasted on an extravagant advertising "type"?

It was extraordinary that, while all this money was being wasted, the Government was cutting child benefit because it claimed that the country could not afford to set it at a decent level.

"Whatever happens to the underwriters, the decision to sell the whole of the Government's stake in BP has been profoundly foolish."

The Chancellor had claimed that his whole purpose in the BP share sale was to widen share ownership. What was left of that purpose now?

Mr Lawson agreed that the size of the United States budget deficit was way ahead of the Americans' capacity to finance it. That was an important problem in the world economy at present.

But it was impertinent of Mr Smith to blame the British Government when, three years ago, Labour was attacking the Treasury and saying that Britain should follow just those sort of policies (loud laughter).

He agreed, too, on the importance of G7. It had never been in better shape during his time as Chancellor of the Exchequer than it was now. It had stabilized exchange rates, among other things.

The workmanlike co-operation that the G7 nations had, which he hoped could be built



The Chancellor said he was surprised by the underwriters' request

upon, was more serious than empty waffle about "non-existent plans and some summit".

The BP underwriters had approached the Treasury at 4.20pm on Monday afternoon. He would now go through the consultation procedure as

quickly as possible.

"I hope to reach a conclusion by Thursday" (Labour shout of "Thursday" and some laughter).

As for Mr Smith's assertion that the Government had pledged to buy BP shares at

£3.30, that was not true (laughter).

Mr Smith had also said that it was wrong to sell BP shares. Yet it had been a Labour Government, in 1977, that had first sold part of BP to the public (Conservative laughter).

## Legal limits on what I can say, Thatcher tells Kinnock

The BP share issue and the crisis in the world's stock markets was first raised at Prime Minister's question time.

Mr Allan Roberts (Bootle, Lab) asked whether the Government had, in the light of the BP share issue, reversed downwards the amount that it expected to raise from selling the water industry.

The Government had estimated that it might raise £2 billion and, with assets worth £23 billion, that was selling off cheap. Would the amount now be about £4 billion, bearing in mind that it would cost £2 billion to £3 billion to install water meters compulsorily in everybody's home?

Mr Margaret Thatcher: The paving Bill before the House will have to go through the House and then will be other legislation. The underwriters

have made representations to the Treasury that the BP issue should be withdrawn. The Chancellor is considering them, as he is contractually bound to do under the terms of the underwriting agreement, and will explain the procedures later.

Sir Peter Tappin (East Lindsey, C): The present crisis in stock markets round the world is primarily an international rather than a national problem and needs an international co-operative response.

In particular, it needs first an early announcement from the Federal Republic of Germany that they intend to reduce interest rates. Second, it needs an early announcement from President Reagan and Congress that they intend to put up their taxes.

Third, it needs continuing international supervision and control of

the new and over-proliferating financial mechanisms which if necessary will prohibit some of these speculative instruments if we are not to be faced by an international financial Frankenstein.

Mr Thatcher: I would agree with him that the matter of the United States budget deficit needs dealing with, and I believe is being dealt with.

The co-operation of Germany, and of course Japan, in the Louvre agreement was welcomed by Mr Baker, Mr Steinberg and Mr Pöhl. That has a considerable influence on exchange rates.

Interest rates have been falling, particularly at the long end of the market, as people have gone into gilts and bonds. We have reduced our interest rates, as we have played our part in the Louvre agreement. I have been criticised, but it has

turned out to be the safest thing.

Mr Neil Kinnock, leader of the Opposition: It is clear that the underwriters of the BP share issue do not consider the sale to be a proper underwriting risk in terms of the prospectus. Does she agree or disagree with them?

Mr Thatcher: Perhaps he did not quite hear what I said earlier. There are restrictions on what I can say.... Labour MPs: Why?

Mr Thatcher: For legal reasons there are restrictions on what I can say, but on the matter of whether the BP issue should be withdrawn, the Chancellor is considering that, as he is contractually bound to do, in terms of the underwriting agreement. He will explain the procedure in his answer later.

Mr Kinnock: She knows very well

that there is no legal consideration which forbids her responding, especially when the underwriters have made the position so clear. Indeed she has an absolute duty under the prospectus to respond.

Conservative MPs: No.

Mr Kinnock: The absence of a firm decision only prolongs and increases instability. Is her refusal to say what her position is not a pathetic evasion of responsibility?

Mr Thatcher: With all due respect, Mr Kinnock has not taken due account of what I said. The Chancellor is contractually bound to consider the representations in terms of the underwriting agreement. He must make due and proper consideration. That is what he is doing.

Mr Kinnock: The underwriters made representations yesterday.

Everybody knows that the Chancellor has an obligation to discuss the matter with them and, if there is failure to agree, to consult the Bank of England. I ask again: Why the delay? Why is she prolonging instability?

Mr Thatcher: He knows the Chancellor must go gently through the procedures. That is what he is doing.

Mr Anthony Rouse-Darke (Birmingham, Selby, C): Has she had a chance to hear Sir Nicholas Goodison, chairman of the Stock Exchange, whose motto is "My word is my bond"? The BP issue is fully underwritten and should go ahead. The underwriters have done well for some years. Now is the time for "My word is my bond" to be taken up.

Mr Thatcher: The Chancellor must follow the procedures he is contractually bound to follow.

## City's pledge 'must be kept'

The underwriters were impatient to suggest that they should juggle their responsibilities, the Chancellor was told during further questioning on his statement. Conservative MPs called on him not to back out of the underwriters of the BP offer.

Mr Terence Higgins (Worthing, C), chairman of the Select Committee on the Treasury and Civil Service in the last Parliament, welcomed Mr Lawson's interest rate reduction. He said that it had to be combined with fiscal balance.

He congratulated the Chancellor on his remarks about, and representations to, the Treasury over the United States deficit. It would be very dangerous to put underwriters in a position where they could say "heads we win, tails they lose" (cheers).

Mr Lawson asserted that it was "very, very important that Britain continued to keep pressure on the United States over the deficit. President Reagan now seemed less unwilling than ever before to raise taxes."

Mr Alan Beith, Liberal Treasury spokesman, said that the United States economic picture was derived mainly from President Reagan's decisions to cut taxes and increase defence spending at the same time. Now, the party was over.

What was the British Government going to do about small investors who had been misled by expensive advertising: deliver them a kick in the teeth?

Mr Lawson welcomed Mr Beith's late conversion to the cause of sound finance — something which the Conservatives had been preaching for a very long time.

Small investors who had applied for BP shares, were bound by the terms and conditions of the offer.

Sir William Clark (Croydon South, C) said that the Chancellor should resist suggestions of abandoning the free market. The reason that the economy was so strong today was compared with 1979 was simply that

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## Anonymous tests for Aids rejected

The idea of anonymous screening as a way of providing accurate information on the spread of Aids was rejected by Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Social Services, during question time in the Commons.

The suggestion came from Mr Timothy Yee (South Suffolk, C), who said that it would be a simple and cheap method because many blood samples were taken routinely.

Mr Moore said that the Government wanted information on the spread of HIV infection. He was anxious to ensure that the best scientific information was available, though not necessarily by the route suggested.

Mr Robin Cook, from the Opposition front bench, asked if it was correct that 1,200 haemophiliacs had contracted Aids "at the hands of the

National Health Service, through receiving infected blood transfusions".

Was that a result of the Government's failure to make the country self-sufficient in blood products?

Mr Moore confirmed the figure. He said that he had the deepest sympathy with those affected, but that there had never been a general state scheme to compensate those who suffered adverse effects that might arise from medical procedures.

Later, Mr Patrick Cormack (South Staffordshire, C), to cheers from both sides, asked the Prime Minister to consider the desperate plight of haemophiliac Aids victims, suffering through no fault of their own. Mrs Thatcher said that she would discuss the matter with the Minister for Health.

## Mental hospital plans

Planned closures of mental hospitals should go ahead very carefully because some of the individuals involved still needed in-patient care, Mr Tony Newton, Minister for Health, said during questions.

He disclosed that there are 60,379 mentally ill people in hospital in England and a further 8,267 in special residential care.

Mr John Birtles (Battersea, C)

drew cheers from all parts of the House when he called for correction in what he described as the imbalance in the mental health budget, under which, at present, 90 per cent went to hospitals and only 10 per cent to care in the community.

Mr Newton agreed with the general thrust of what he said. Hospital closure proposals should be handled very carefully.

## Sentence rights queried

## HOUSE OF LORDS

The Government promised in the Lords, during the fourth day of the committee stage of the Criminal Justice Bill, to consider abolishing the right to recommend the minimum term to be served by a murderer sentenced to life imprisonment.

Some peers also expressed support for replacing the present murder and manslaughter changes with one of unlawful killing to remove the difficult distinction.

After a debate on life sentences, the Earl of Caithness, Minister of State, Home Office, agreed to look at all the issues before the end of the year and the related amendments were withdrawn.

Lord Hinchinbrook of Lillingston (SDP), moving an amendment for abolishing the recommendations, said that it had the approval of the all-party penal affairs group.

He said that, between 1965 and 1985, judges made 244 recommendations as to the minimum sentences to be served and in only seven cases were recommendations released before that time.

The recommendations were used in an entirely haphazard manner, with some judges favouring them and some not.

## Social security payments statement

## Opposition fury as Moore says child benefit will not be raised next April

There would be no increase in child benefit next April, Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Social Services, told the Commons in a statement.

To Opposition cries of "disgrace", he said that higher child benefit would be of greatest help to those who were already well off and whose living standards were already rising.

In contrast, it would give no extra help to more than three million children in families on benefit, including low-income working families.

Child benefit now cost more than £4 billion, nearly 10 per cent of the whole social security budget, and an increase would not be the best use of resources at present.

The particular need was to target help on those who most needed it and to control the overall growth in social security expenditure.

Mr Moore was outlining his plans for the next year, including the introduction of a reformed system of income-related benefits that would take place for most benefits in the week beginning April 11 next year.

He said that the retirement pension for a married couple would rise from £63.25 a week to £65.90, and for a single



Mr John Moore: Fostering incentives to work

person from £39.50 to £41.15, in line with increases in prices of 4.2 per cent.

He had decided to upgrade all contributory benefits, benefits for the disabled, war pensions and similar benefits by 4.2 per cent also. Public service pensions would be likewise increased.

The new system of income-related benefits would be introduced next April. Supplementary benefit would be replaced by the simpler income support, housing benefit by a redesigned system aligned with income support, and family income supplement by the new family credit.

Mr Robin Cook, chief Opposition spokesman on health and social security, said that the statement would result in a cut in benefit for more claimants than any uprating statement made by Mr Moore's predecessors in the past eight years.

On income support, almost four million claimants on supplementary benefit would not get a penny extra in increased benefit next April.

Those worst affected would be those disabled claimants who would not qualify for the disability premium and could lose entitlement of up to £50 a week.

Could he confirm that one million claimants would lose all their entitlement to housing benefit?

A couple of million pensioners would now receive a rates demand for the first time in years.

If Britain had the fastest growing economy in Europe, why had the Prime Minister given them the lowest pensions in Europe?

Worst of all was the freezing of child benefit which would affect seven million mothers.

How could the Tories pose as the party of the family when they had cut support for school meals, school transport, school clothing and now the volume of child benefit for the second time in three years?

Mr Moore said that total benefits would now be half-a-billion pounds more than in the last published plans.

"This new, more coherent and better targeted structure will direct help more clearly where it is most needed and will foster incentives to work."

Overall, income-support claimants would be receiving higher real levels of benefit than under the previous figures.

Sick and disabled people would be getting an increase under the new scheme of nearly £5 a week in disposable income.

"Even with no change in the rate of child benefit, we will be increasing, not reducing, the overall level of resources devoted to families with children."

"We will be spending £220 million extra on the new family credit and £100 million extra on families' income support. By contrast, full uprating of child benefit would have cost £120 million."

"Moreover, family credit will go directly to help low-income working families with children and will reach twice as many people as the present family income supplement."

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## Whips' row delays watchdog decision

Continuing disputes between Government and Opposition whips have caused the recreation of the all-party Commons select committees — Whitehall's watchdogs — to be postponed.

The Committee of Selection responsible for choosing committee members wanted to begin the process today, but has been thwarted because the whips are still arguing over chairmanships and over the composition of the Scottish affairs committee.

A big dispute over the composition of the defence select committee is also imminent. Unconfirmed reports suggest that the Labour whips have finally decided to replace Dr John Gilbert, the former

defence minister and outspoken critic of his party's unilateralism, with a member of CND.

That may cause the protest resignation of Dr Gilbert's two multilateralist committee colleagues, Mr Bruce George and Mr Dick Douglas. It would mean the Ministry of Defence withholding the classified information which enabled the committee to produce a string of top-quality reports in the last Parliament.

It will also lead to a Commons debate exposing Labour's deep defence divisions because senior backbench Tories have already indicated that they will object.

It is possible for the Conservatives to table and carry an

amendment putting Dr Gilbert back on the committee, thus thwarting the Labour whips and creating a bitter constitutional dispute in the process.

The chairmanships disputes appears to centre on the social services committee, which has had a Labour chairman for many years. The Conservatives are said to want it back because it is likely to be a key committee in the new Parliament.

Other sources suggest that Labour wants to swap it for another committee chairmanship to avoid having to make the independent-minded Mr Frank Field, Labour's sole obvious contender, the chairman. Labour is believed to

want either the energy or environment committee chairmanships.

The dispute over the Scottish affairs committee has been caused by the Government's post-election inability to muster enough Scottish Tories to form a majority. It is believed to have suggested a reduction in the size of the committee so that it can retain a majority, but Scottish Labour MPs are in uncompromising mood.

Mr Derek Foster, Labour's Chief Whip, has made clear his determination to block the formation of any committee if he believes that the Government is behaving unreasonably.

## £2,500 confidentiality bill

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

A Tory MP is facing a £2,500 legal bill having successfully resisted an almost unprecedented attempt to have his confidential correspondence with a constituent produced as evidence in an open court.

Mr Harry Greenway, MP for Ealing North, was twice summoned to appear at Maidstone Crown Court where his constituent, Miss Wendy Burgess, was a principal prosecution witness in a trial that saw the defendant, Manjit Singh Gill, imprisoned on two counts of soliciting to murder.

He finally appeared under protest earlier this month, having been subpoenaed by

the judge, Mr Justice Leonard, and warned that not to do so would have been a criminal offence.

The prosecution argued that the correspondence could have contained evidence of a criminal conspiracy against the defendant.

Mr Greenway countered that absolute confidentiality between an MP and a constituent was a cornerstone of parliamentary democracy and could not be breached. The judge finally read the correspondence in private and declared that it should not be produced as evidence.

Mr Greenway said yesterday: "It's a gross im-

position on any MP to have to find £2,500 for doing a public duty, all out of taxed income."

However, he said that he was delighted to have won an important test case. "I act on the principle that I will take a constituent's confidence to the grave. To have violated that would have been extremely serious for democracy, itself and my relationship with my constituents."

**Parliament today**

Commons (2.30): Questions: Trade and Industry, Conclusions of debate on the defence estimates.

Lords (2.30): Debates on child health services and on the disabled.

Mr Lawson: "There is probably general agreement in the House with what Sir William has said."

To be fair, action was not called for only from the Americans. In current circumstances there was a danger that monetary policy in the Federal Republic of Germany was really rather too tight and he hoped there would be action on that front, too.

Mr Peter Shore (Bethnal Green and Stepney, Lab) said that nobody would accuse Mr Lawson of hyperbole in saying that the events of the last two weeks would have a dampening effect on world demand.



# Field sports spending at £1,800m a year

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

More than £1,800 million a year is spent on field sports in Britain, only slightly less than on admissions to spectator sports, and more than on tickets for the opera and pop concerts.

The figures were given to a conference held in London yesterday to launch a book which examines the relationship between hunting, shooting and fishing, and conservation and wildlife.

It was commissioned by the Standing Conference on Countryside Sports which includes sporting and landowning organizations, representatives of the Home Office, Department of the Environment, Ministry of Agriculture, Scottish and Welsh Offices, Countryside Commission, Forestry Commission, Nature Conservancy Council, Sports Council, local authorities and the police.

The author, Mr Robin Page, is a farmer, naturalist, writer and broadcaster, who does not hunt, shoot or fish. But he makes a powerful case for field sports benefiting the national economy and the environment; and he insisted yesterday that this was his personal view, and that he had not been under pressure from any of the sponsors.

He writes of a huge and growing gap between town and country. "Urban views and values seem to dominate; the countryside, its ways, its wildlife and its people seem ignored or misrepresented", he says.

This situation is often made worse by deliberate misrepresentation, both in the media and by some anti-field sports organizations. As a result it is widely believed that coursed hares are released from boxes in front of the dogs, whereas the animals are wild and unrestrained.

Similarly it is thought that foxes are bred in captivity to be released on the day of a hunt. In reality there are probably more wild foxes in Britain today than ever before.

Mr Page accuses tabloid newspapers of being among

# Lowry's home from home is unveiled



Miss Shelley Rohde, the biographer of L S Lowry, relaxes in a facsimile of the artist's sitting room that she helped to recreate at Manchester City art gallery for an exhibition celebrating the centenary of his birth. Most of the furniture and effects are lent by his estate (Photograph: Barry Greenwood).

## University research Hunt for 'anti-gravity' force

By Robert Matthews, Technology Correspondent

Newcastle University is setting up an experiment to search for a mysterious "anti-gravity" force, the existence of which would threaten some of the most established ideas in science.

The force, which weakens the effect of gravity over distances of a few yards to a mile, was predicted in the early 1970s. Last year, reports emerged in the United States and Australia that such a force had been discovered. A team led by Professor Keith Runcorn, of Newcastle University's physics department, is joining the international hunt for proof that it exists.

According to Professor Runcorn, most of the experiments to date have not been sensitive enough to detect the force, which is thought to

## BBC newsreader in 'state of panic'

Miss Jan Leeming, the former television newsreader, was snatched with ammonia at the BBC and robbed by three intruders, a court was told yesterday.

They snatched her handbag while she was temporarily blinded and stole £23, Knightsbridge Crown Court, west London, was told in a written statement.

The attack, in January this year, happened when Miss Leeming, aged 45, was on her way to read the 10pm Sunday news.

Carrying a briefcase, coat, personal files and shoulder bag, she walked towards the adjoining room which housed the children's programme, *John Craven's Newsround*.

She told police: "As I pulled back the door to open it I saw three figures about three to

## Cricketer killed by bolt of lightning

A cricketer was killed by a lightning bolt which threw an entire team to the ground, an inquest was told yesterday.

Mr Martin Whittaker, aged 27, was fielding during a match in west London in August when he received a direct hit on the head by the single lightning strike.

The bolt shredded his clothing, scattering it over a 40ft area and punched a fist-sized hole in his cricket cap, the inquest at Hammersmith Coroner's Court, west London, was told.

Mr Richard Wildman, a friend and team mate in the "Economics" side, said in a statement that there had been a little light rain during the game, but no sign of a lightning storm.

He said he was 30 yards from Mr Whittaker, who was fielding at midwicket in a match against the Old Isleworthians at the Wood Lane grounds, Isleworth, on August 22.

"I heard an incredibly loud bang, and a flash. The next thing I knew was that I was on the ground."

"I looked around and saw that all the other players had been thrown to the ground. Four didn't get up, the bowler, batsman, wicket keeper and Martin."

"I saw the bowler was moving and moaning. I went to Martin and saw his clothing was in shreds."

Players tried to resuscitate Mr Whittaker, of Northolt, west London, but he was dead when an ambulance arrived.

Dr John Burton, the coroner, recorded a verdict of accidental death.

### The going rate

Ratepayers in Davenport, Northamptonshire, will never pay rates again under a district council plan to sell building land for £45 million and finance services on the interest.

### Arts meeting

Sir Claus Moser, recently retired chairman of the Royal Opera House, is to head a four-day symposium in Glasgow next October on the role of the arts in urban planning, staged by the British American Arts Association.

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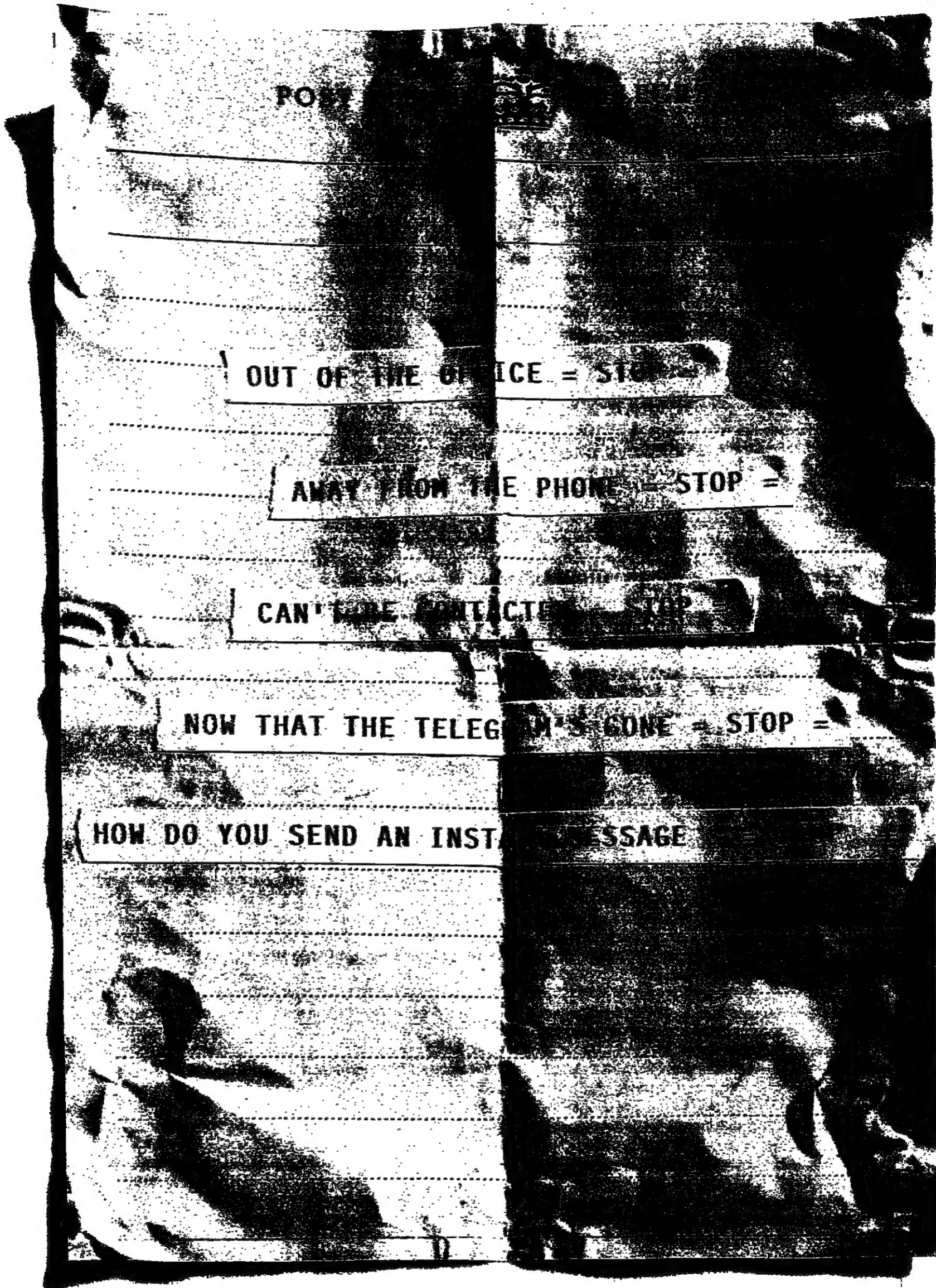
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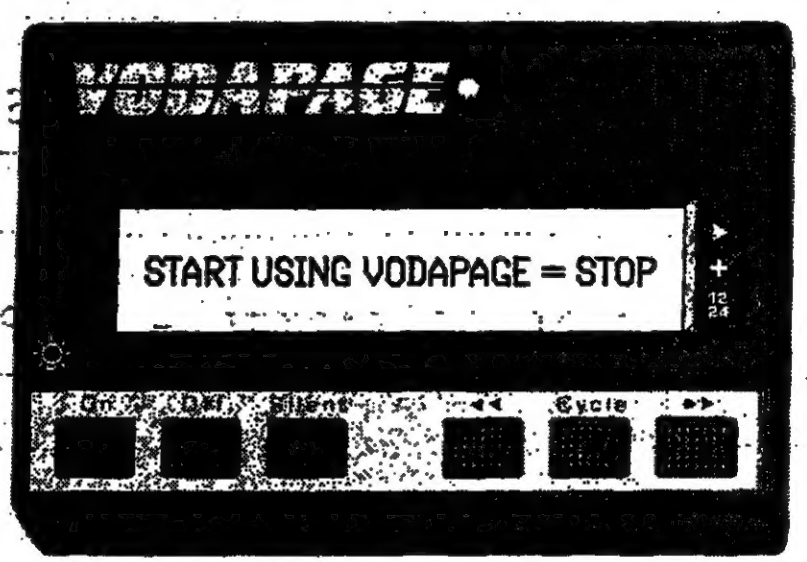
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# Recruit tells how he was burnt in army initiation ceremony

A new recruit to the King's Own Scottish Borderers was sexually abused, burnt, beaten and forced to crawl naked through the snow in an initiation ceremony at Colchester army barracks, a court martial was told yesterday.

Private James Guthrie, aged 20, said he was burnt on the testicles by a makeshift "flamethrower" and dropped out of a barrack room window 20ft to the ground, wrapped in nothing but a mattress cover.

The torture was part of a series of initiation ceremonies which appeared to be endemic in the First Battalion of the regiment, Major David Howell, for the prosecution, told the court martial in Verden, West Germany.

Private Guthrie, who joined the First Battalion at the start of this year, said he was taken from his bed and put through a painful and degrading series of punishments as part of his initiation into the ranks.

Before the court are four fellow privates from the First Battalion: Philip Smith, David Gardner and William Rilly, all aged 19, and Barry Ferguson, aged 20.

They have pleaded not guilty to charges of indecent assault and grievous bodily harm.

Private Ferguson has pleaded guilty to one of two separate charges of indecent assault against Private Guthrie.

Major Howell told the court: "This case is set against the background of so-called initiation ceremonies. These appear to have been endemic in the First Battalion, King's Own Scottish Borderers, and most initiations involved people being stripped naked and having a cold bath".

However, Private Guthrie's initiation went much further.

Private Guthrie said that, after an evening drinking in a pub in Colchester, where the First Battalion was based until March this year, he went back to his room at barracks to sleep. Later, he was woken by Private Gardner and Private Smith.

"They put a motorcycle helmet on my head. I was told to mark time beside my bed. I didn't do it fast enough and so I was hit on the head."

He said he was marched to another room naked and ordered to stand beside a table. A group of privates from Company A were in the room, including the four accused.

He was hit again, his private parts were interfered with and

burnt with flames produced with aerosol can and cigarette lighter, and he was indecently assaulted with a broom handle, he said.

Private Guthrie said indecent photographs were taken of him, and then he was forced to climb into a mattress cover and dropped on the floor.

"I was dragged to my own room, lifted on to the window-sill, and I was then dropped out. It's about 15 or 20ft from the ground", he said.

The initiation continued with him being ordered to march at the double across the ground, and then to crawl back, about 50 yards, through the snow.

Major Howell said the ceremony ended only when an officer arrived on the scene.

While the officer was on his way to break up the incident, it is alleged that Private Gardner punched Private Guthrie in the mouth, telling him: "Don't take this personal, but I hate your guts."

The charges come after an investigation by the Army's Special Investigation Branch into bullying and brutality. The case is expected to last up to two weeks.

# Hospital for Sick Children facing bleak future

## Drive for £30m is launched by Prince

By Jill Sherman  
Social Services  
Correspondent

The future of one of Britain's greatest medical institutions, the Hospital for Sick Children in Great Ormond Street, central London, is in jeopardy because of outdated facilities, the Prince of Wales said yesterday.

Speaking at the launch of a £30 million fund-raising campaign to develop new facilities at the hospital, the Prince said it offered a symbol of hope to both children and parents.

"Yet, in spite of its unique value to society, its whole future is now in jeopardy because of its outdated and inadequate building and facilities."

Speaking at his home at Highgrove, Gloucestershire, the Prince's message was transmitted to an audience of parents, children and journalists at the hospital by satellite.

He said he and the Princess of Wales had visited the hospital earlier this year.

"It would be an enormous tragedy if it were not possible to improve the working facilities", he said.

The hospital, which was



A previous patient at the hospital, Dorothy Phipps, aged 72, with nurse Inga Vance (Photograph: Alan Weller).

opened in 1852 with 10 beds, looked after 9,000 children last year, said Professor Martin Barratt, consultant renal physician.

He said the building's physical limitations, leading to cramped wards and corridors, meant that the hospital would not be able to keep up with high technology advancements which demanded extra space.

"Great Ormond Street will no longer be at the forefront of child care unless we are able to go ahead with the

developments", Professor Barratt said.

Among the priorities for redevelopment work are the replacement of the leukaemia and cancer ward for children and a new infectious diseases unit which will include a centre for the study and care of children born with Aids.

Work on the new facilities, which will be contained in a five-storey building, is due to start next year and be completed by the end of 1993.

The capital costs are expected to be £50 million, of which half will be met by the Government. The £30-million public appeal is the biggest fund-raising exercise in the hospital's history.

Lord Prior, the chairman of the appeal, said that £9.5 million had already been raised.

Apart from in-patients, 60,000 children a year from all over Britain attend the hospital because of the specialist knowledge of its doctors.

Stephen Spielberg, the Hollywood film-maker, had donated \$1 million (£595,200) to the campaign, Lord Prior said, and the Variety Club had pledged £5 million.

Donations to The Wishing Well appeal for the redevelopment of Great Ormond Street Hospital, 49 Great Ormond Street, London WC1.

Heavy rain put a damper on Prince Charles's solo visit to South Wales yesterday. Plans to fly him by helicopter to the 25th anniversary celebrations of Atlantic College in South Glamorgan were cancelled.

## Cleveland abuse inquiry

# Police doctor felt he was 'powerless'

By Ian Smith

Dr Marietta Higgs, the consultant paediatrician at the centre of the Cleveland child sexual abuse controversy, tried to exclude a senior police surgeon from her clinical examinations, the judicial inquiry into the affair was told yesterday.

There was heated confrontation between Dr Higgs and Dr Alistair Irvine at a special meeting called to discuss their differences of opinion over the diagnosis of anal abuse.

From the outset, Dr Irvine told the inquiry, Dr Higgs indicated the subject was not open to discussion and she considered his views wrong. Repeatedly, she emphasized that she had uncovered a massive problem of sexual abuse in Cleveland that had been missed by everyone else.

"It became clear that no role was seen for the police surgeon in the examination of child victims of sexual abuse and that they (Dr Higgs and her social worker aide) wanted to exclude the police surgeon from examinations", Dr Irvine said.

"The implication was that as I was the one dissenting voice, they would get rid of me and thereby be able to continue to wage their war against the abuse they believed to be in existence unopposed."

As tempers rose, Dr Irvine told Dr Higgs that he considered her diagnosis, based on anal dilation alone, verged on incompetence. The meeting ended abruptly, with neither side willing to accept compromise.

Dr Irvine told how he first met Dr Higgs in February this year, when called to examine a child suspected of being abused. At a later stage, after the child's grandfather had been arrested and charged on

the evidence of Dr Higgs, Dr Irvine was asked to examine the child on behalf of the police.

Permission was withheld by Dr Higgs and when her diagnosis was questioned, she refused to listen to the senior police surgeon.

During the next few weeks, he became aware of murmurs among police officers, who believed cases were not being reported or social service reports were being delayed.

Though greatly concerned at what he saw as a worsening situation, Dr Irvine said he was powerless to intervene. He felt he had exhausted all sensible channels. Neither Dr Higgs, nor Mrs Susan Richardson, the Cleveland Social Services child abuse consultant, seemed willing to listen to any view but their own. Throughout June, police officers told him of other suspected child abuse cases where permission for examination by a police surgeon had been refused.

Once mounting public disquiet resulted in the Northern Regional Health Authority setting up an independent panel of paediatricians to examine children, Dr Irvine was asked to carry out 10 joint examinations.

Eight showed no signs of abuse and two displayed injuries not consistent with the diagnosis of recent sexual abuse, but explained by other known facts in the case.

"There have, in my opinion, been a considerable number of diagnostic mistakes made in Cleveland", he said.

"It is a situation which has no doubt caused a great deal of misery and one which I very much regret."

The inquiry was adjourned until today.

## Pupils on 10 pints each week

One in 24 children aged 15 are drinking 10 pints of beer a week or more and only one in 10 never touches alcohol, according to a government report.

Dr Philip Bean of Nottingham University has drawn up the report for the Home Office after a survey of 725 Nottingham children.

It shows one in 24 drink the equivalent of more than 10 pints a week, the average drunk is three pints and only 10 per cent never touch alcohol.

Dr Bean said yesterday: "The figures are worrying because the heaviest drinkers will go on to have serious medical problems later on in life."

Mr Ian McCafferty, director of health policy and training in Nottinghamshire, is demanding an increase in the price of drink and a government clampdown on public houses and off-licences serving under-age drinkers.

Mr David Levell, director of the Alcohol Problems Advisory Service in Nottingham, said: "The figures show that alcohol consumption among young people is going up and the age at which people start to drink is getting younger. They are laying down drink patterns which will become problematic later on."

## Servicing cost soars in London

By Daniel Ward  
Motor Industry  
Correspondent

Car servicing costs in London rose 30 per cent in the last 12 months and are now double those in Devon, East Anglia and the North-east.

The average labour cost at garages servicing popular British models is more than £21 an hour in London, less than £17 in the West Midlands and about £15 in Strathclyde.

According to a survey by the Herondrive leasing organization, some Austin Rover, Ford and Vauxhall dealers in London charge £25 an hour for servicing, yet the cheapest Ford garages charge only £13.50 an hour in the capital.

Among luxury cars, BMW charges the most at £23.55 an hour on average across the country.

Because of the financial crisis, sales of new cars in Britain are set to drop by 200,000 in 1988 from the record figure of 1.955 million forecast this year.

A market of 1.75 million cars in 1988 seems realistic, according to Professor Gerald Rhy, economics adviser to the Commons select committee on trade and industry and Britain's leading economics expert on the motor industry.

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## WORLD SUMMARY

## US steps up Iran arms ban drive

Washington — After announcing an embargo on all US imports from Iran, the Reagan Administration is stepping up pressure for a United Nations arms embargo on Tehran. It refuses to accept a ceasefire in its war with Iraq (Christopher Thomas writes). President Reagan announced the trade embargo on Monday, together with a list of 14 "militarily useful" items that cannot be exported to Iran.

While Iraq has agreed to abide by the ceasefire if Iran does, Tehran insists that the UN simultaneously appoint a commission to determine who started the war. State Department officials said that Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the UN Secretary-General, will complete his latest diplomatic round by the end of this month. The US wants the UN to impose an arms embargo if those efforts fail.

THE HAGUE — European Foreign Ministers meeting at the Western European Union yesterday issued a warning that if the current peace mission in the Gulf war by Señor Pérez de Cuellar did not succeed "within the next few days", the Security Council would be asked to take "further measures" against Iran and Iraq, including an arms embargo.

## Appeal on Poll blow for Arabs

Beirut — Mr David Jacobson, one of the American hostages whose release last year was apparently obtained after the delivery of American weapons to Iran, yesterday told the group still holding two of his compatriots that they should not expect any compromise from the United States (Juan Carlos Gurmucio writes).

The message was contained in a letter to the newspaper *an-Nahar*, addressed to "Haji", whom Mr Jacobson has said is a leader of the Islamic Jihad Shia Muslim group demanding US pressure on Kuwait to obtain the release of 17 Arabs imprisoned there.

Mr Jacobson appealed for the immediate release of the hostages.

## Boy 'sold' for cocaine



Chicago (AP) — Authorities are working to deny custody to a pregnant drug addict of her 22-month-old son Anthony, left, after she identified him as the child she swapped for £50 of cocaine.

Police, not realizing that Anthony has been in foster care since he was found abandoned in June, had been looking for him since they arrested Ms Lou Ann Powell, aged 26, on an outstanding prostitution warrant in July.

## Refusenik Air drugs gang held

Jerusalem — Mr Vladimir Slepak, who waited 17 years for a Soviet exit visa, longer than any other Jewish "refusenik", arrived in Israel on Monday night (A Correspondent writes).

He said his departure did not reflect a change in Soviet policy. "We must not forget that the struggle is not yet over."

Mr Slepak was one of the founders of the movement for Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union.

## Mourning Reagans

Washington — Mrs Nancy Reagan flew to Phoenix with President Reagan yesterday after the death on Monday of her mother (Christopher Thomas writes). Mrs Edith Davis, aged 91, a Broadway actress in her youth, died at a nursing home of a stroke. Mr Reagan flew back to the White House last night and will join his wife at the weekend.

Mrs Davis, who encouraged her daughter in an acting career, was known throughout the United States as "Lucky". Her daughter once said of her: "If I could be half the woman she is, I would be happy".

## Political fallout from the stock market slide

## Peking bolsters recovery in Hong Kong

By Michael Dynes

Sir David Wilson, the Governor of Hong Kong, last night told international businessmen and investors he was confident that the underlying strength of the British colony's economy would enable it to weather its present financial difficulties.

His speech, delivered at a banquet hosted by the chairman of the Hong Kong Trade and Development Council, was clearly buoyed by news of a partial recovery on the Hang Seng index, Hong Kong's main share indicator, which registered its worst-ever decline on Monday after losing 33 per cent of its stock value.

The recovery has been largely

attributed to a decision by the authorities in Peking to participate in a second rescue package, put together yesterday by the Hong Kong Government and local businessmen in an effort to bring back a semblance of normality to the colony's volatile stock market.

The intervention of the People's Republic is widely seen as an emphatic demonstration, if any were still needed, of Peking's determination to maintain the viability of Hong Kong as one of the world's leading financial centres in the run-up to 1997, when the colony reverts to Chinese jurisdiction as a special administrative region.

But China's interest in Hong Kong goes much further than merely adhering to the provisions of the 1984 Sino-British accord, which requires both signatories to maintain Hong Kong's economic viability up to, and for 50 years after, the transition period. In addition to the benefits that Peking anticipates by way of increased trade and investment from the West, China's acceptance of Hong Kong's status as a bridgehead between the free market and a centrally planned economy also has serious implications for the advocates of reform within the Chinese leadership.

The opponents of Mr Deng Xiao-

ping, the paramount leader in the Chinese Communist Party, who are long renowned for their obsession with order and stability, can be expected to exploit the events of the past week in an effort to demonstrate the dangers of too close a relationship with capitalism.

At the very least, Mr Zhao Ziyang, who is expected to be confirmed as the new party chief after his 13th congress, which started in Peking this week, and who is also a leading advocate of increased economic contacts with the West, will be under greater pressure to convince sceptics within the party that Hong Kong's recent turbulence is not a taste of

what is to be expected when China begins experimenting with its own stock markets in the near future.

Peking is now so concerned about the state of the colony that it has asked Mr Xu Jiatun, head of the New China News Agency, Peking's *de facto* representative in Hong Kong, to stay behind in order to keep it informed on developments rather than attending the congress.

Such anxiety about Hong Kong's financial stability are by no means new. Even the most ardent advocates of economic reform are known to harbour some reservations about Hong Kong's classic *laissez faire* approach.



Traders on the Hong Kong stock exchange gathering to check the Hang Seng index, the main market indicator, yesterday. It reached 2,395.72 by the close after dropping below 2,000.

## How world is weathering the financial storm

## France

The Prime Minister, M Jacques Chirac, has confirmed that the Government's privatization programme would go ahead as planned (Susan MacDonald writes from Paris).

However, the Finance Minister, M Edouard Balladur, has already announced a postponement of the privatization of Matra. But the corporation, with its involvement in arms and military supplies, is considered a difficult state-owned industry to privatize anyway, and its postponement will give the Government a chance to consider it further.

M Lionel Jospin, for the opposition Socialist Party, said in reply that it was irresponsible to pursue privatization for purely political or ideological reasons.

## South Africa

The flight of capital from South Africa during the past two years has had more serious implications for the country's economy than the shake-out on the stock exchange (Ray Kennedy writes from Johannesburg).

This view has been expressed by Dr Gerhard du Kock, Governor of the Reserve Bank. Since last week more than 65 billion rands (£21 billion) have been wiped off share values.

But President Botha pointed out that although the country's economy was closely linked to those of its

main trading partners there were features of the domestic scene which put South Africa in an altogether different position.

The main one is gold's predominant role and the fact that only about half-a-dozen institutions, such as the giant Anglo American Corporation and the main insurance houses, dominate the local stock market. They could be back as buyers before the end of the week.

## Australia

The market shock waves that have now wiped off almost 40 per cent from Australian share values hit hardest while the Prime Minister, Mr Bob Hawke, was in North America and Europe, and he returned with few comforting words (Keith Dalton writes from Sydney).

But later, speaking to reporters, he echoed the opinion of the Treasurer, Mr Paul Keating, who predicted no radical economic policy reversals unless international commodity prices fell or Australia faced a flight of capital.

For the moment, the Government of Mr Hawke is sitting out the share market slump, suffering little public criticism and dismissing opposition calls for a mini-budget to re-set economic policies in the wake of the market crash.

A key test for Mr Hawke is his handling this week of trade union demands for a 1.5 per cent national wage rise, promised under a wage restraint policy first implemented four years ago.

Union leaders agreed to an unprecedented one-week delay in negotiations after last week's market crash. While the Government has reaffirmed support for the national wage increase, the Hawke Government is likely to argue strenuously for a further delay.

## Bahrain

The collapse appears likely to have an immediate but temporary impact on foreign investments by Gulf Arab states and other investors, but relatively little impact on the regional exchanges themselves (Our Correspondent writes from Bahrain).

Investment analysts say that Kuwait's market, the largest in the Gulf, like others in the region is insulated from international market pressures. In Kuwait's case, the Government itself holds at least 50 per cent of the shares traded on the exchange.

Overall, some bankers say, the drop in share prices on international markets may help reduce capital flight, a growing problem in the Gulf because of the Iran-Iraq war. But Arab investors are more likely to wait out the market turmoil than go looking for bargains after the record falls, analysts said.

## Japan

Political reaction to the global market crashes has been a muted combination of brave words and little direct action

(A Correspondent writes from Tokyo).

It is far too early to tell if the "wait and see" attitude of the Government has been successful, although no important policy changes are forecast in the short term.

The fact that the country's leadership is in a transition period between the end of the Nakasone administration and the advent of the first Cabinet of the Prime Minister-designate, Mr Noboru Takeshita, may also account for the lack of bold political responses from Tokyo.

## W Germany

Herr Gerhard Stoltenberg, the Finance Minister, said that the Government would stick to its privatization programme and would put the rest of its stake in the Volkswagen concern on the market in the near-future (John England writes from Bonn).

Herr Friedhelm Ost, the chief government spokesman, for his part said that Bonn was optimistic about money and capital markets. But the present risks could be mastered only by close international co-operation of the kind that Herr Stoltenberg and Mr James Baker, the US Treasury Secretary, had agreed upon.

Unofficially, the West Germans see Mr Baker as the villain of the piece because of his attack on West Germany's policy on interest rates and his threat to let the dollar go into a free fall. But Herr Friedrich Chris-

tians, the president of the Deutsche Bank, not only blamed Mr Baker for the crash, but also said that he did not exclude the possibility that Mr Baker had consciously induced it so that share prices could rise again in the US presidential election year.

## Soviet Union

A key economic adviser to the Soviet leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, ruled out the creation of a stock exchange in the Soviet Union "in the near future", saying that it could "unbalance" the economy (A Correspondent writes from Moscow).

The economist, Mr Abel Aganbegyan, told a news conference here that, while "we are not against this (the stock market), we can't do everything at once", in terms of radically reforming the sluggish and centrally-planned Soviet economy.

He noted that price reforms were already in the pipeline as the economy decentralizes to a limited extent, with business and factories starting to function on a profit-and-loss basis. "If we begin to create a stock market, this could unbalance our economic development," he said. "Therefore we will not set up the market of capital in the near-future."

## Brazil

Black Monday caught this country in the middle of delicate negotiations with foreign creditors and both sides want an honourable exit from

an eight-month debt moratorium (Mac Margolis writes from Rio de Janeiro).

The stalemate has slowed vital flows of capital to Brazil's sputtering economy.

Now there are contrary readings on the fallout from the stock crash. Some believe that the prospect of world recession will help the rich nations pressure the intransigent Brazilians into falling into line in its repayments.

Senator Severo Gomes, a senior member of the ruling Brazilian Democratic Movement, declared that Brazil should not accede hastily to any emergency schemes, such as the Reagan Administration's recent appeal for it to make a symbolic "goodwill" debt repayment.

## Israel

There are worries that American aid of \$3 billion a year will be reduced, and a warning to this effect has already come from the American Embassy (A Correspondent writes from Jerusalem).

The Defence Ministry has said that any reduction in American military aid will have to be made up from the budgets of other ministries, so that Israel's security will not suffer. This would entail drastic cuts in social services and education, already functioning on minimal budgets.

Another source of funding for Israel's extensive educational and social systems is also likely to be hit — hundreds of millions of dollars donated each year by world Jewry.

## Central America peace agreement

## Managua ready to talk with Contras

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The left-wing Sandinista Government of Nicaragua is expected soon to agree to proximity talks with the US-backed Contras, representing a sharp reversal of its outright refusal to deal with the rebels.

The move is in response to intense pressure from Latin American countries, which had feared that Nicaragua's refusal to negotiate would kill off the Central America peace agreement that is due to take effect on November 7.

Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, the country's Roman Catholic Primate and the most

respected opposition figure, is likely to be the go-between. He is understood to have told the Sandinistas that the Contras want to negotiate a complete ceasefire and an across-the-board amnesty.

He has maintained frequent contacts with the rebels, and last weekend met them in New York to discuss the possibility of being an intermediary for talks with the Nicaraguan Government.

Congressional sources said Mr Jim Wright, Democratic Speaker of the House of Representatives, will visit

Central America next month. He is closely involved in shaping the Democrats' policy for winding up the rebel army and providing substantial US funds to help resettle individual Contras.

The vast majority of the rebels would opt to settle in the United States, but senior officials have made clear that such an idea would meet with fierce resistance.

The Democratic leadership in Congress is convinced that it now has the votes in the Senate — it certainly has them in the House of Repre-

sentatives — to support a programme of resettlement and wind down US involvement with the rebel force.

Democratic Party analysts say the vote would be close in the Senate, but at least two key Southern Democrats have recently indicated support for dismantling the Contras.

The Democratic leadership will probably not press the question to a vote until January at the earliest, and even then they may propose more "humanitarian" aid to keep the Contras functioning until the picture becomes clearer.

with the Contras and had threatened to jail leaders like himself if they set foot in the capital, Managua.

Commenting on the award of the Nobel Peace Prize to President Arias, he said that such prizes should be given for achievement, not just for trying.

Meanwhile, Señor Ortega had introduced only cosmetic reforms in response to the peace proposals, he said. He acknowledged that the Sandinista Government would not be brought down by military action alone. But this was a very important factor, because it helped to rally the people in Nicaragua.

Señor Calero is in Britain for a week and will meet Foreign Office officials and members of the Commons Foreign Affairs Committee.

## Rebels ask Britain to help ensure aid

By Henry Stanhope

Anti-communist guerrillas fighting the Sandinista regime in Nicaragua could finish their campaign by the end of the year if they are given the means to do so, the Contra leader, Señor Adolfo Calero, said in London yesterday.

Señor Calero, who is in Britain as a guest of the Conservative pressure group, the Committee for a Free Britain, said that there were signs of war weariness among government forces and also in the Soviet Union, their principal source of supply.

Now he would like Britain to use its influence in the United States to obtain congressional approval for the multi-million-dollar aid package drawn up by President Reagan. Not only did Britain, as Washington's

oldest and closest ally, have it within its power to influence events, but it was in the country's interest to do so, he said.

"For instance, it would be a severe blow to Britain if Mexico was taken over by the communists. And the communists don't just want Central America. They want Mexico to the north and Venezuela to the south — two countries where there is oil," he told *The Times*.

"And Mexico is not immune to social upheaval. The communists want Pacific ports and they need to consolidate their hold on the Caribbean. They already have Cuba, although they have now lost Grenada."

Señor Calero confirmed that the Contras supported the



Señor Calero: anxious for aid to clinch rebel victory.

## MPs back accord on Quebec

From John Best, Ottawa

The Canadian House of Commons has overwhelmingly endorsed a federal-provincial accord aimed at ending Quebec's constitutional isolation from the rest of Canada.

However, deep divisions remain over the price to be paid for reconciliation with the predominantly French-speaking province.

The Commons voted 242-16 in favour of a resolution to approve the Meech Lake accord, named after the Federal Government's retreat north of Ottawa where the Prime Minister, Mr Brian Mulroney, and the 10 provincial premiers achieved the reconciliation five months ago.

The relatively light vote against the resolution, nevertheless, does not begin to measure the true extent of the troubles still facing the accord.

The opposing MPs came from all three parties, the ruling Conservatives, the Liberals and the left-wing New Democratic Party.

The accord is designed to heal the split in the Confederation that occurred when Quebec refused to accept the 1982 federal-provincial agreement which repatriated Canada's Constitution from Westminster. Part of the price paid for bringing Quebec back into the fold is recognition of the province as a "distinct society" within Canada.

## Launch of Titan boosts US faith in space programme

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

The United States Air Force has successfully launched a Titan 34 D rocket carrying an intelligence satellite, bringing to an end the 18-month-old grounding of the nation's most powerful unmanned launch vehicle.

The launch, from Vandenberg air force base in California on Monday, has "tremendous significance for the nation's space programme," according to Mr Edward Aldridge, the Air Force Secretary.

"It allows us to resume launching critical national security payloads on a regular basis," he said. Not only did it restore the Air Force's ability to place large national security satellites in orbit but also reopened "all of our current expendable launch vehicle

paths to space". The nation's fleet of expendable boosters — Scout, Atlas, Delta and Titan 34 D — are operational again.

The Pentagon did not disclose the type of satellite deployed on Monday, but it was reported to be a classified military payload "eye-in-the-sky" satellite, vital to monitoring world trouble spots and verifying that the Soviet Union is not cheating on arms control agreements.

Space experts speculated that it was a KH 11 strategic reconnaissance satellite, weighing about 30,000lb, and costing about \$600 million (£360 million).

The Pentagon at present has only one KH 11 satellite operating; its estimated three-year life ends next year.

The launch of the \$65 million (£39 million) Titan,

delayed several times in recent weeks, apparently ends a period in which the main American launch systems have been grounded following spectacular launch failures, including the explosion of the Challenger shuttle immediately after blast-off on January 28 last year. This lengthy grounding had left the country dependent for various national security functions on military satellites already in orbit, including some old ones.

Recent Titan launches ended in failure, one in late 1985 because of a leak which shut down an engine, and the second in April, 1986. The second blew up six seconds after launch.

Nasa has had no manned space flights since the Challenger disaster. The next shuttle flight is planned for June 2 next year.

## 3,000 Tamils arrested in Madras

From Kuldip Nayar, Delhi

More than 3,000 Tamil demonstrators from south India were arrested in Madras yesterday as they picketed local offices of the central Government to protest at "atrocities" against Tamils by the Indian peacekeeping force in Sri Lanka.

Members of the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, an opposition party in Tamil Nadu, stopped trains entering their state this week but failed to prevent Indian Airlines planes

from flying out of Madras, the state capital, when police intervened.

The DMK says it expresses the majority view among Tamils in India, who are not against Delhi's peace accord with the Sri Lanka Government but are bitter at Tamil deaths caused by Indian soldiers on the island.

Party sources in Madras say that the Indian Government is not taking into account the feelings of Tamils in India.

killed and 14 wounded, and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam were said to have suffered 20 deaths, marked the final link-up of the various Indian columns in the Sri Lankan town of Jaffna (Michael Hamlyn writes).

The move, which finally brought the column from the Kankesanthurai-Chunnakam direction into town, was resisted for two hours by the Tigers, who used machineguns and rocket-propelled grenades to slow the Indian advance, an Indian official said here.



## Russians outbid by China with wider choice in party poll

From Mary Dejevsky, Peking

China has trumped the Soviet Union in the "democratization" stakes by announcing that there will be multi-candidate elections for the Central Committee — the body that chooses the Communist Party Politburo.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the 187-member Praesidium on the third day of the Chinese Communist Party Congress in Peking. The meeting, which was chaired by the party's acting General Secretary, Mr Zhao Ziyang, also agreed that the elections would be by secret ballot.

While the principle of multi-candidature is new for the Chinese Communist Party, it has been practised at local government level for several years. The party's version will be strictly limited. Nominations for the Central Committee will exceed places by 5 per cent, while the figure for alternate (non-voting) members will be 12 per cent.

The Central Committee elections are important because there is believed to be disagreement within the leadership about the composition of the new Politburo and about the retirement of elderly leaders.

Earlier in the day, attention had been diverted from congress proceedings by the arrival of the first Taiwanese journalist to report on a Chinese party congress.

When Mr Chieh-hsing Pi, deputy editor of Taiwan's *Global Magazine*, walked into the regular morning press conference 10 minutes late, he was mobbed by Chinese cameramen and television reporters. The noise interrupted the opening statement by a high-ranking party official (on China's science and technology programme) and the large platform party exchanged embarrassed glances.

Mr Pi, however, was warmly greeted when he stood to ask his first question — about the prospects for direct scientific co-operation between China and Taiwan. He was later allowed to ask two more questions, an honour not accorded to other correspondents.

The presence of a Taiwanese journalist reporting on the congress is a coup for the Chinese. Last month two Taiwanese journalists were fêted in Peking after travelling to China independently, against the orders of their Govern-

ment, and probably facing punishment. Now that Taiwan is lifting its comprehensive ban on travel to China, Mr Pi has taken slightly less of a risk. His arrival during the congress, however, allows the Chinese to make considerable political capital out of it.

Taiwan and China have had no diplomatic relations since Chiang Kai-shek fled to Taiwan in 1949 with his Nationalist Government. China has tried to build on its successful agreements to recover Hong Kong and Macao, and has held out the prospect of a similar "one country, two systems" arrangement for Taiwan. But Taiwan has resisted all Peking's blandishments.

Mr Pi's question answered (the Taiwan Government has refused all China's offers), the conference was given the Chinese leadership's first formal response to the US decision to freeze the further transfer of high technology to China. Madame Zhu Lilan, Deputy Minister at the State Science and Technology Commission, said that the decision was "totally unreasonable". She declined to say what effect it might have on China's research programmes.

## Korea takes vital step on democratic road

From Gavin Bell, Seoul

Koo Chang Hoi, the fish seller, played a small part yesterday in changing the course of South Korea's political history.

In statistical terms his contribution was insignificant, but as part of the country's transition to full democracy it was essential.

With 25.6 million other voters, Mr Koo was called upon to endorse a draft Constitution giving them the right to elect their President freely for the first time in 16 years. It also strengthens the National Assembly and the judiciary and guarantees freedom of speech and other basic human rights.

Mr Koo pronounced himself a happy man after ink-stamping a voting form to register his approval of the reforms. "For years we have been oppressed by one government after another. Now the soldiers have to leave politics. Now it is up to us, the people, to decide who runs the country."

His neighbours, who crowded into the polling station in Pongcheon-dong, a working-class district of Seoul, appeared to be unanimous in sharing his views.

For Mr Choi Ki Whan, an office cleaner, the new Constitution offered "softer laws and more rights for poor people". Mr Chang Tai Hee, who earns an average of 400,000 won (£300) a month driving a taxi 12 hours a day, saw it opening up new busi-



A Seoul student hurling a petrol bomb in clashes with the police that provided the only discordant note during the polling.

ness opportunities. "Until now the Constitution was for rich people. The rules and regulations favoured their big corporations, now maybe there will be incentives for small businesses."

Judging by the attendance at the Pongcheon-dong polling station, the authorities' concern that many of the electorate might take a "yes" verdict for granted and not bother to vote, appeared unfounded. A steady stream of voters filed into the station.

The only discordant note was struck by a mob of radical students opposed to the referendum, who hurled petrol bombs at riot police in a brief skirmish outside a cathedral in the capital.

Initial results are expected early today, and since approval is virtually a foregone conclusion plans are already advanced to promulgate the new Constitution on Friday.

The outcome of the next poll, to elect a successor to President Chun Doo Hwan in December, is less certain.

Mr Kim Dae Jung, the veteran dissident leader, is due to declare his candidacy today, thereby dividing the opposition. Reunification Democratic Party which already has a contestant in its president, Mr Kim Young Sam. To make the split for-

mal, Mr Kim Dae Jung intends to launch his own party on Monday.

On paper, this should favour Mr Roh Tae Woo, the former army general who is standing for the ruling Democratic Justice Party. However, he is being challenged from the right by Mr Kim Jong Pil, a Prime Minister under the late President Park Chung Hee, who plans to resurrect his Democratic Republican Party.

### Reporting the Afghan war

## Two US newsmen killed in attack

From Edward Gorman, Peshawar

Two American newsmen are reported to have been killed while travelling with members of the Mujahidin resistance inside Afghanistan in the worst incident of its kind since the Soviet intervention in December, 1979.

The camera crew were named as Lee Shapiro, aged 38, a freelance television cameraman who was married and lived in New York, and his assistant, Jim Lindalos, described as in his late twenties, who was working as a sound man.

According to Western diplomatic and resistance sources, they are believed to have been caught in a Soviet ambush in Paghman, north-west of Kabul, on October 11. The journalists had been in Afghanistan since May and were working on a television documentary about the Mujahidin for Mr Shapiro's New York-based company, Lee Shapiro Media.

A spokesman for the fundamentalist Hizb-i-Islami party, with whom the journalists were travelling, said yesterday: "We have heard that the two Americans, together with two Mujahids and their translator, were ambushed in Paghman. The two Mujahids and the Americans were killed and the interpreter is seriously wounded."

The spokesman added that Hizb-i-Islami were making efforts to contact commanders in the area in an attempt to find out what has happened to the bodies of the Americans, who were on their way back to Pakistan when they were killed.

The American Consul in Peshawar, Mr Michael Malinowski, has confirmed the deaths, but said he was "uncomfortable" with Hizb-i-Islami's version of events. At first he was told the journalists had been killed in a Soviet bombardment, but this was then changed to an ambush. He said that American consular officials here and in Kabul would continue to investigate the incident in an attempt to clarify the details.

Hizb-i-Islami, a radical and unpredictable group within the resistance led by Mr Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, has been linked with several controversial incidents involving Westerners inside Afghanistan. Recently Hizb-i-Islami commanders were accused of kidnapping French doctors in Badkshan province, and last year a French aid worker, M Thierry Niquet, disappeared while travelling with a Hizb-i-Islami group in north Afghanistan.

Hizb-i-Islami claims that M Niquet was killed in an ambush, but French aid workers believe he may have been murdered.

The deaths of Mr Shapiro and Mr Lindalos bring to five the number of Western reporters killed since Soviet troops entered Afghanistan in 1979.

A Norwegian freelance cameraman, Stead Gundersen, was killed in a battle between resistance forces and Soviet troops near Farah in western Afghanistan in 1982; an Italian, Rafael Favero, died in Paktia in eastern Afghanistan in 1984 after being accidentally run over by a tank captured by the Mujahidin from the Russians; and an American journalist, Charles Thornton from Arizona, was killed in September, 1985, in a Soviet ambush in the southern province of Kandahar.

## Manila doubts on role of America

From Humphrey Hawkey, Manila

The Philippines Congress is to investigate allegations that the American Embassy in Manila intervened against the Government during the coup attempt in August.

The announcement by leaders of both congressional houses comes during a visit by the US Under-Secretary of State, Mr Michael Armacost, who is trying to quash an increasing number of reports that hawkish elements in Washington are unhappy with President Aquino's Government.

The investigation will focus on Lieutenant-Colonel Victor Raphael, an assistant military attaché at the US Embassy.

In an affidavit published in newspapers here, a Philippine Army commander, Colonel Rene Dado, says that Colonel Raphael repeatedly tried, but failed, to persuade him and his men to call off an attack against rebel troops.

Manila newspapers have revealed that Colonel Raphael is a close friend of the coup leader, Colonel Gregorio Honason, and is the godfather to his daughter.

The US Ambassador, Mr Nicholas Platt, has defended Colonel Raphael, saying he was simply doing his job because military attachés are meant to keep track of their military counterparts in host countries.

The Government is trying to play down the controversy — particularly while Mr Armacost is in Manila. After a meeting with President Aquino yesterday morning, he said the problem had not even been discussed.

TV office fire: Two Manila television stations went off the air last night after a fire, preceded by a loud explosion, broke out in a suburban broadcasting complex, fire officials said (Reuters reports).

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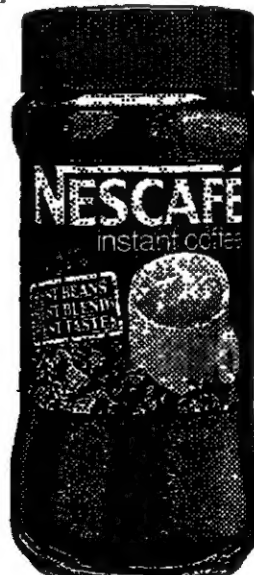
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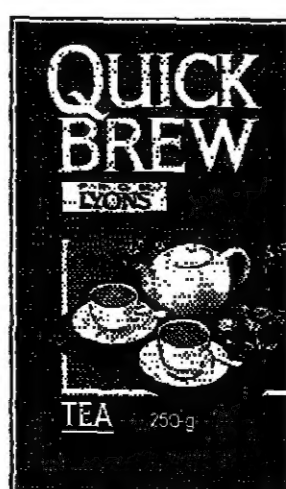
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WEU sets own security goals

# European allies try to allay US fears in fresh defence policy

From Richard Owen, The Hague

Britain and its six European partners in the revitalized Western European Union (WEU) yesterday signalled the beginning of a common European defence policy by issuing a declaration which calls for a "cohesive European defence identity", while containing repeated commitments to transatlantic solidarity designed to ease American anxieties.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, and other foreign and defence ministers at the two-day meeting emphasized the importance of NATO. But the WEU declaration - formally termed, somewhat inelegantly, the "Platform on European Security Interests" - launched Europe on the road to a common defence policy with specific reference to the European Economic Community's moves towards political and economic integration.

The impetus towards a common defence policy comes at a time of strengthening bilateral defence links. The latest round of Franco-German talks has recently finished. Paris has indicated that French nuclear missiles could be used to protect West Germany. There have also been recent moves towards Franco-British co-ordination in the nuclear field.

"We are convinced that the construction of an integrated Europe will remain incomplete as long as it does not include security and defence," the statement said. Sir Geoffrey referred to a "distinctive European contribution" in defence.

Diplomats said the word "platform" was intended to sound less grandiose than "charter", and therefore less threatening to the United States. American suspicions of the WEU, a moribund body until its recent revival, have been strengthened by the leading role played in the grouping by France. France left the military structure of NATO in 1966, and has pursued a

Gaullist policy based on mistrust of both superpowers. On the other hand, M. André Girard, the French Defence Minister, who attended The Hague meeting, recently distanced himself from Gaullism and endorsed the NATO doctrine of a nuclear "flexible response" to the Soviet threat. Some sources said that the new defence platform could be seen as a further step towards the reintegration of France into the Western alliance.

Significantly, the document contains specific references to the role of the British and French nuclear deterrents in European defence, as well as an indirect reference to British nuclear co-operation with Washington.

Britain and France, the ministers said, were "determined to preserve the credibility" of the British and French nuclear forces.

The statement commits WEU members to "a share of common defence in both conventional and nuclear fields". That phrase presents considerable obstacles to other European countries interested in joining the revived WEU, including Spain and Greece, both of which have anti-nuclear policies. Mr Hans van den Broek, the Foreign Minister of The Netherlands, who chaired the session, said the WEU - founded in 1955 - was not an exclusive club. But enlargement should not be allowed to jeopardize its cohesion.

Mr van den Broek said that there was no question of Western Europe standing apart from America and NATO. The aim was not to prepare for an American military disengagement, but rather to strengthen the commitment of US forces to Europe, which were irreplaceable. Sir Geoffrey Howe said that the most distinctive feature of the WEU platform was its assertion that European security was a "single arch with two pillars", one European and one American.

On the other hand, the declaration referred to the need for arms control deals to "take into account specific European interests in an evolving situation", a clear sign of European irritation at being left out of superpower arms deals which affect Europe directly.

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## Golden find by Australian



Mr Ray Hall, 62, said he believed he had stumbled on an area worked nearly a century ago by Chinese gold-diggers.

"One of these days you've got to find where it comes from and I've found it," he said. "I don't think anyone's ever seen gold that rich."

Mining officials said that a drum full of ore, which was brought in by Mr Hall last week, was valued at more than one million Australian dollars (£297,000).

Full-scale drilling operations were expected to begin as soon as the find had been evaluated.

The Northern Territory Mines and Energy Minister, Mr Barry Coulter, said that the vein of quartz was rich in gold and the find was likely to prove substantial.

"Anyone who can fill a 44-gallon drum with earth and have over a third of it full of gold in a few minutes is doing all right," the Mines and Energy Minister said.

"It is truly a marvellous story. He and his lady have been scratching away for years in that area and they just stumbled on it," he added. "He was digging out the back of his shed when he came across a whole reef of quartz."

"He filled the drum, left his wife in charge, and drove into town to ask our officials to look at what he had. They almost fell off their chairs - the drum was full of very large gold nuggets."

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## Soviet economists say bureaucrats threaten reforms

From A Correspondent, Moscow

Two senior Soviet economists, who think that Mr Mikhail Gorbachev's restructuring policy has arrived at a crucial stage, yesterday discussed the main dangers facing the reforms.

At a wide-ranging news conference, the two economic advisers to Mr Gorbachev, Mr Abel Aganbeyan and Mrs Tatiana Zaslavskaya, admitted that the restructuring drive was running into difficulties because of bureaucratic inertia, and that people had staged work stoppages after their pay was cut because of new quality controls.

Mr Aganbeyan announced that the grain and cereal harvest for this year would be quite close to last year's total of 210 million tonnes. He backed down from a previous forecast that it would exceed the 1978 record of 237 million tonnes. The planned target for this year is 232 million tonnes.

Mr Aganbeyan attributed the result to rain during harvesting in the Urals, Siberia and Kazakhstan. Western experts here say that Mr Gorbachev could run into political difficulties if the harvest is less than last year's bumper crop, obtained largely through the use of intensive techniques. The official figures are expected to be announced soon.

Asked about resistance to the reforms, Mr Aganbeyan said that while he would not consider the possibility of the failure of perestroika, as the restructuring of the economy is known, attitudes of "wait and see" and what he called the forces of inertia threatened progress.

He singled out government officials who were paying lip service to perestroika but were continuing to work in the old way.

Mrs Zaslavskaya, who concentrates on social issues, said that the main danger for perestroika would be to lose the support of broad circles of the population.

Mr Aganbeyan attributed the labour disputes - two of which have been reported in the Soviet press - to the new state quality-control body, known as Gospriemka. Press reports have indicated that workers' salaries have been cut because of fines imposed by Gospriemka as a result of the production of sub-standard goods.

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## Main points of the charter

Edited extracts from the European security charter ("Platform on European Security Interests") adopted by the Western European Union.

On European Union: We recall our commitment to build a European Union in accordance with the Single European Act, which we all signed as members of the European Community. We are convinced that the construction of an integrated Europe will remain incomplete as long as it does not include security and defence.

An important means to this end is the modified Brussels Treaty (1948) which, with its far-reaching obligations to collective defence, marked one of the early steps on the road to European unification.

We see the revitalization of the Western European Union as an important contribution to the broader process of European unification. We intend therefore to develop a more cohesive European defence identity.

On NATO and the Soviet threat: We have not yet witnessed any lessening of the military build-up which the Soviet Union has sustained over so many years. The geostrategic situation of Western Europe makes it particularly vulnerable to the superior conventional, chemical and nuclear forces of the Warsaw Pact. This is the fundamental problem for European security.

Under these conditions, the security of the West European countries can only be ensured in close association with our North American allies. The security of the Alliance is indivisible. The partnership between the two sides of the Atlantic rests on the twin foundations of shared values and interests.

Just as the commitment of the North American democracies is vital to Europe's security, a free, independent and increasingly more united Europe is vital to the security of North America. Military security and a policy of détente are not contradictory but complementary.

On US forces and nuclear deterrence: To be credible and effective, the strategy of deterrence and defence must continue to be based on an adequate means of appropriate nuclear and conventional forces, only the nuclear element of which can confront a potential aggressor with an unacceptable risk.

The substantial presence of US conventional and nuclear forces plays an irreplaceable part in the defence of Europe. They embody the American commitment to the defence of Europe and provide indispensable linkage with the US strategic deterrent. European forces also play an essential role: the overall credibility of Western strategy cannot be maintained without a major European contribution.

In the conventional field, the forces of WEU member states represent an essential part of those of the Alliance. As regards nuclear forces, the co-operative arrangements that certain member states maintain with the US are necessary for the security of Europe. The independent forces of France and the UK contribute to overall deterrence and security. The UK and France will continue to maintain independent nuclear forces, the credibility of which they are determined to preserve.

Arms control policy should, like defence policy, take into account the specific European security interests in an evolving situation. We recall the fundamental obligation of the Brussels Treaty to provide all military and other aid and assistance in our power in the event of armed attack on any one of us.

On mutual defence: We shall ensure that our determination to defend any member country at its borders is made clearly manifest by means of appropriate arrangements; improve our consultations and extend our co-ordination in defence and security matters; see to it that the level of each country's contribution to the common defence adequately reflects its capabilities; aim at a more effective use of existing resources, *inter alia* by expanding bilateral and regional military co-operation; and concert our policies on crises outside Europe in so far as they may affect our security interests.

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## US expels alleged SS killer

From John England, Bonn

A German-born American citizen, alleged to have taken part in executions at a Nazi concentration camp where he was an SS guard, has been extradited to West Germany, although the West Germans have no charges against him.

Reinhard Kulle, aged 66, was accused by America of involvement in the killing of inmates at the Gross-Rosen camp in Silesia.

But Herr Alfred Streim, director of the Nazi War Crimes Centre at Ludwigsburg, said his office had no evidence Mr Kulle had been responsible for any deaths.

NEW YORK: A Justice Department spokesman in Washington said Mr Kulle had entered the United States illegally in 1957 (Charles Bremner writes). The case against him was proved, by evidence in US archives.

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SPECTRUM

# Lessons in citizenship

It is sometimes called the "hidden curriculum": the package of morality which teachers hope, school-leavers take away and retain long after the past tense of "être" has been forgotten. But as crime among 14 and 15-year-olds reaches dizzy heights, it is clear that the hidden curriculum must come out into the open.

"We are living in a time of rapid cultural and technological change. There are values which, when we were at school, were made explicit. Children now have so much coming at them from all sides: the assumptions we were brought up with are in new contexts. These assumptions — about responsibility, citizenship, living with others — have to be made explicit again, virtually from scratch. Those are the words of David Martin, the philosophical head of Chenderit comprehensive school in Northamptonshire. His school is a test tube in which he is mixing a live academic experiment in "making the hidden curriculum explicit".

A "faculty" of Chenderit teachers, trained by the Leicester University Moral Education Centre, is delivering a sophisticated personal and social education (PSE) programme. The timetable has been restructured to allow two hours a week — three for the sixth form — for pupils to work through a syllabus covering personal responsibility, citizenship, the law (and why it exists), as well as careers, health education, form-filling and "study skills".

The local police present a course to 15-year-olds each year, explaining what they do, and why; it begins with the surprise "arrest" of a pupil on whom "drugs" have been planted. This is always a bit and sets the mood for more role-playing games, from a staged road accident outside the school to a full "court ses-



**The Government is to spend £11 million on crime prevention, some of it in schools.**

**Sarah Thompson looks at two schools already setting an example**

Some teachers have doubts about allowing police officers such a free rein; in a handful of London schools, an extreme version of this view has banned police altogether.

Mike Cross, a lecturer at St Martin's College, Lancaster, had doubts when asked to train officers for a county-wide schools project after the 1981 Moss Side riots.

"I didn't want it to become a PR exercise for the police," he says. "One teacher in one of the schools we started working in objected on political and ethical grounds — but he changed his mind on realizing that it was not a whitewash job, but an attempt to explain the law, why and how it works."

"I also resisted the pressure to make the course a straightforward anti-crime exercise. What we seem to have done, in the end, is to make young-

sters better informed — I wouldn't go so far as to say that they are better citizens, but they are more aware."

Though Cross is wary of hailing his in-school project, now a permanent feature of the Lancashire curriculum, as a crime-beater, a similar two-year-old exercise in Dudley, West Midlands, has had sharp effects. Juvenile crime in Dudley is far lower than in the rest of the West Midlands and the gap is widening.

A Chenderit School, David Martin is also getting results. A truancy rate of 9 per cent is down to 4 per cent. The proportion of pupils staying on in the sixth form has almost doubled, to more than 50 per cent. Older pupils report that bullying is almost extinct; graffiti and vandalism have disappeared.

A different approach in a very different school, a comprehensive raised by concrete tower blocks in a tough south London district with a youth unemployment rate of 72 per cent, is also reaping real results. When Brinley Morgan, a 51-year-old Welshman, took over Walworth School four years ago, crime and "semi-crime" — petty bullying and playground theft — were rife. The rambling, split-site school was vandalized and covered with graffiti.

Morgan judged that the layout of the school allowed too much space that did not belong to anyone and he introduced a "zoning" system whereby children in one year have responsibility for a particular area.

"Then we dealt with the parts that still didn't belong to anyone: stairwells, corridors, gaps between buildings," he says. "I transformed the tops of stairwells into cupboards so that pupils could no longer gather to cause damage. I cut down the number of staircases that could be used except as fire escapes."



Pupils at Chenderit School use ILEA's *Rights, Responsibilities and the Law*. Such textbooks explain the law well (extract above) but stress rights, not responsibilities. Teachers at the school use the book as only part of the citizenship and moral education syllabus.

"I covered up glass partitions, which are easily kicked in, with fireproof notice-boards — the same for the corridors. These are covered with pupils' work and posters. Everyone told me they would be torn down or defaced in minutes — but they have been respected."

Morgan tours the school lavatories, hunting out graffiti and ordering its immediate removal to prevent it "breeding" — and so they know that someone cares. Flowers and plants have been encouraged — and are not, miraculously, torn to shreds by vandals. Carpers have been laid in the corridors to reduce noise — but children have also stopped dropping litter on the floor.

Morgan issues form tutors with daily themes — homework, behaviour out of school — on which they expand in the 20-minute registration period before lessons, and he writes constantly to the parents, 60 per cent of whom are single. He issues pupils who help at, for example, an after-school concert, with a "headmaster's commendation" certificate.

The "hardest slog" has been reform of uniforms, which Morgan insists on. For the first time, pupils are taking pride in their uniforms. The results of Morgan's regime have been a reduction in "semi-crime", in vandalism and in the unemployment rate of Walworth school-leavers — down from 70 to 50 per cent.

Both Morgan and Martin have found that moral education does not have a text book. Like Cross, they have built up their materials and style from scratch. Publications such as ILEA's *Rights, Responsibilities and the Law* talk a lot about rights but not much about responsibilities, which both heads feel have been neglected.

Teachers are also woefully unprepared. Martin is appalled by how little training on moral issues and citizenship his staff received as students; hence the need to bring in Leicester University's team.

Both heads believe that if juvenile crime is to be tackled and school-leavers given a sense of citizenship, schools need far more time for the subject than the Government seems prepared to allow.

The Government's national curriculum proposals stress that the curriculum must promote pupils' development as citizens. Moral education, ministers are asserting, comes under the heading of Religious Education, which is protected only by the 1944 Education Act and is buried in a list of subjects which are to vie for time on one day a week.

Martin's project takes up two to three hours a week per pupil; Morgan, too, has expanded the time he allows for PSE. This time must be cut back when the national curriculum is imposed.

Brinley Morgan called for the Government to take a more practical stand. "If the Government could make a positive statement that reinstates an agreed moral basis to the education system, then schools can build on that. But at the moment schools and police are just a thin red line."

"Developing human potential and teaching citizenship are a whole school subject in themselves," Martin says. "Children need a space in which they can stand back and ask, 'What does it all mean?' We don't want to breed a technologically efficient generation who can't take stock of their lives."

## In the footsteps of a visionary

Over a century the Pasteur Institute has grown into a scientific tower of Babel where 2,000 experts from more than 50 countries pool their knowledge in the endless battle against disease.

The same Pasteur is everywhere in France: on boulevards and squares, on schools, hospitals, community centres. There are Pasteur Institutes in Morocco and Madagascar, Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi, and a score of other places around the globe. Earlier this year, Pasteur even made the front pages of British newspapers when the auction of jewellery bequeathed by the Duchess of Windsor raised more than £30 million for the Institute.

At any moment, doctors,



Pioneer: Pasteur (fourth from left) and colleagues at the institute he founded in a courtyard.

the boy. Moved by pity, — three of his own daughters had died young of infectious diseases — he finally gave the go-ahead for a series of injections. Within a month the lad was back home, and in that historic victory over what Professor Jacob called "the most insidious of diseases" was founded the Pasteur Institute's long journey of investigation and discovery of the mysteries of human life.

An establishment that began life in a Parisian courtyard alongside coachmen grooming their horses would propel itself into the front line of medical research, producing a handful of Nobel Prize winners, contributing to a stream of breakthroughs against mankind's natural enemies.

With an annual budget in excess of £50 million, almost half of which now comes from the French government, the institute has come a long way from its first public appeal for cash. The vast list of donors then ran from a country postman, who sent in half a franc, to the Tsar of all the Russias (100,000 francs). During its first full year in an era of shockingly high mortality

rates, above all among children, the Institute treated some 5,400 patients, of whom less than 1 per cent died. Pasteur told the President of France of his cherished objective: "To replace war, bloodshed and death with peace, hard work and good health."

Today only the scale and the sophistication of the Institute's work has changed. In the words of *Le Point* magazine, it has become "a scientific tower of Babel", encompassing around 2,000 people, pooling expertise and research from more than 50 countries.

The Institute's most important work today is concentrated into three main areas: microbiology, immunology and something best described as "development biology", which seeks a deeper understanding of cancer, genetic diseases and diseases of the central nervous system.

Its "star", AIDS researcher Dr Luc Montagnier, who collected the lion's share of glory for discovering the virus that causes the disease (known as "Sida" in France), is agreeably frank about the Pasteur's determination to win the race

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9 Tiny trace (6)

10 Italian campaign beachhead (5)

11 Stateless woman (5)

12 Forum (5)

13 1,094 yards (5)

15 Essential (5)

16 Jeans cloth (5)

18 Wavily pattern (5)

20 Harbour (5)

21 Doubtful (7)

23 Deserve (4)

24 Expletive for prayer (8)

DOWN

1 Egyptian music rite (6)

2 Put back in (8)

3 Yank (3)

4 Hong Kong market measure (4,4,5)

6 Sluggish (4)

7 Bets taker (6)

8 Gods' cupbearer (8)

11 Distinguishing feature (8)

14 Clay oven cooking (8)

15 Practicable (6)

17 Hair styling foam (6)

19 Large pitcher (4)

22 Saloon counter (3)

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## THE TIMES DIARY

### The chef suggests...

If the winner of the Booker prize will not be known until tomorrow, I can at least name the winners of two other forthcoming literary awards. In the next few weeks George MacBeth will receive one of the two Angel Hotel awards for East Anglian writers for his autobiographical work *Child of the War*. The 15th century Bury St Edmunds hotel, run by the Gough family, has been awarding local fiction and non-fiction writers with money and dinner for six years. Previous recipients include Rose Tremain and Ruth Rendell (a nominee this year under her pen name Barbara Vine). The £1,000 David Higham Award for best first novel will go on November 17 to Adam Zamojski for his *The 13th House*. It is the first piece of fiction from his publisher, Fourth Estate. The burgeoning book prize business means that writers with the energy to enter could win more than £40,000 in a year.

Three novelists passed over by the Booker judges in drawing up their shortlist are in the running for the £18,500 Whitbread Book of the Year. William Boyd, Bruce Chatwin and Ian McEwan will feature in the Whitbread shortlist when it is announced today. And Richard Ellman, the biographer of Oscar Wilde, could have the unique distinction of winning posthumously.

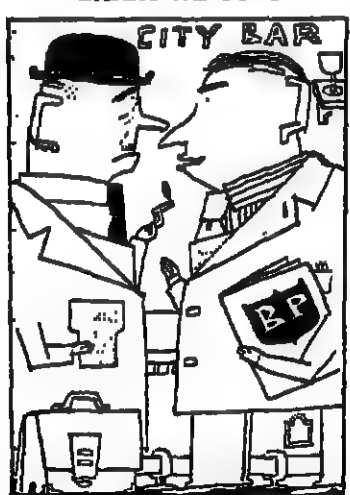
### Vat man

Nigel Lawson is having a really hard time. After being referred to as a "fat boulder" in the Commons the other day by Labour's Tony Banks, I hear that during the good old days before the stock market crash the Chancellor became worried about the increasing number of junior Treasury officials — who earn between £15,000 and £20,000 — forsoaking Whitehall for more lucrative jobs in the City. In an effort to staunch the flow, Lawson held a drinks party. Few attended: the invitation asked for a £2 contribution for the wine.

### Ex cathedra

The worthies opposing the government's plans for a core curriculum because it excludes Latin have failed to net what could have been their biggest fish. Lord Hailsham, who took a double first in Greats in 1930, will not publicly support the cause. Senior members of the Classics department at Newcastle University wrote to the former Lord Chancellor, along with other public figures and academics, asked him to write to Kenneth Baker expressing concern that there will be no room for Latin on most school timetables. Those who obliged included Enoch Powell, who wears his classical learning on his sleeve, and academics Sir Geoffrey Elton and Anthony Kenny. The reason for Hailsham's silence? He tells me that, despite his private feelings, it would be inappropriate for him to lobby a former colleague. Anyway, he adds, there is no guarantee the Education Secretary would take any notice of his views.

BARRY FANTONI



"Of course I'm smiling. I did the ad campaign"

### Marooned

After the gales and storms we look set to be doused with red rain. An amateur weather watcher tells me that strong southerly winds are heading for Britain carrying dark top soil from the Atlas mountains in North Africa, rather than the more familiar Saharan sand. Similar fiery drops, he says, fell in February 1982 and July 1968. In 1975 the dust got no further than the Alps, where it fell with snow. The Met Office says the effect is "conceivable" but is not forecast. Fair enough, boys; you do the hurricanes and leave red rain to the amateurs.

● Soviet Weekly has hit upon a "superb Christmas present idea": for £7.70, a 30-minute recording of parts of Lenin's 1919, 1920 and 1921 speeches on compact disc.

### Casting off

One employee who will pack his bags and leave Conservative Central Office if Lord Young moves in as chairman this weekend will be John Desborough, the communications director. The former political journalist will try to retire again — he joined the Smith Square office 18 months ago at the request of outgoing chairman Norman Tebbit soon after leaving the Mirror Group. Desborough should find life more tranquil pursuing his new hobby, cruising up and down the Broadlands on the Beagle.

PHS

Continuing our series on the October Revolution, V.G. Kiernan argues that it was responsible above all else for today's peace and prosperity

# Why the world is in Russia's debt



The test of a great writer, said T.S. Eliot, is that after him no one can write without being aware of him. Much the same might be said of great events. The world could never be the same after what happened in November 1917 in Petrograd. Nothing else came out of the Great War that made its butchery even remotely worthwhile, scarcely anything else is even remembered. Russia's old regime crumbled away like a mummy exposed to fresh air; the carnage following the Bolshevik seizure of power was caused, or at least immensely worsened, by the Allied intervention on behalf of right-wing factions bent on civil war. There had been a rehearsal for such intervention in the joint campaign of foreign governments with a stake in China to suppress the Boxer Rebellion of 1900, with the sack of Peking as the climax. Long before that, the crusade of reactionary Europe, including Tory Britain, against the French Revolution had for consequences the Terror of 1793-94 and the wars that convulsed Europe down to Waterloo.

It has often been maintained that Russia would have fared better by following the path of capitalist development, and the liberalism which — it is too easily taken for granted — would have accompanied it. If there was any chance of such a way forward, it was in 1905, the year of revolt against Tsarism headed by the bourgeoisie. Britain and France, from political and financial motives, by leading Nicholas II the money he needed to bring his people back into subjection.

Winston Churchill, a member of the Liberal government responsible, in later years lamented the failure of Western capitalism to "strangle Bolshevism in its cradle". For years — despite the efforts of the left — the West kept the Soviet Union under virtual blockade. Isolation and continual peril drove it to turn away from good as well as bad in Western life, and to industrialize at a reckless speed. And if Russians were chosen by destiny to show that an alternative form of human society was possible, they had the defects of their qualities, and were less well prepared for efficient organization. Trotsky contrasted the courage of the workers in the civil war with the difficulty of getting them to keep their rifles clean.

In spite of everything, the Soviet era has been fundamentally one of progress, along a road never before travelled, a triumph of human determination in face of prodigious difficulties, many of them still to be overcome; progress savagely interrupted but not halted by an invasion from the capitalist world as devastating as any Mongol irruption.

An admirer must feel painful regrets over many things that have deeply tarnished socialist ideals in the USSR, but he has no need at all to apologize for them to the amazingly self-complacent, self-righteous West. There is no crime of Stalinism that cannot be more than matched in this century's annals of Western behaviour, in or out of Europe. The frightful counter-revolution in Spain was

carried out by fascist intruders with the demure connivance of Tory Britain and France. All the unnecessary sufferings undergone by Russia cannot equal those wantonly inflicted on Vietnam. Western and Japanese capitalists setting up industries in India or China or in Japan itself exploited labour far more brutally than Soviet industry ever did.

Stalinism was a morbidly unnatural outgrowth of socialism; fascism a more natural one of capitalism. Without the Soviet Union there would have been no firm barrier to a fascist takeover of Europe. But for the Soviet army we should all now be Heil Hitler's ghost, with real or feigned enthusiasm.

Fascism's defeat was the Soviet Union's most epoch-making service to Europe and humanity. There have been others. Had Russia evolved into one more industrial-capitalist state, or empire, strife would have continued among all the big capitalist countries, and their shifting combinations, as it did down to 1945. Since then, common hostility to the USSR, as the citadel of socialism, has brought them into amity, or a decent pretence of it. They are afraid now to push their quarrels too far, and are compelled to leave that indulgence to the small fry, such as Iraq and Iran.

Obliged to combine, they have been learning at last the lesson that Norman Angell tried in vain to teach them before 1914, that they should see one another as trading partners instead of as throat-cutting rivals. Roused by the Second World War from long economic torpor, they have had to keep expansion going, and prove the ability of a born again capitalism to raise living standards, in order to take the wind out of

**'In spite of everything the Soviet era has fundamentally been one of progress'**

socialist sails. We owe our affluence to Lenin more than to anyone else.

In the years after 1917 down-trodden Asia was better able than Europe to recognize its world-transforming quality. During the Second World War it was evident to any outsider in India that there was far more popular sympathy with Russia than with Britain. Fear of India drifting too far towards Moscow and socialism does much to account for the grant of independence in 1947. Similar fear of a spread of Soviet influence did much to decide a reluctant West in the end in favour of all-round decolonization. Neo-colonialism, or imperialism in the broader sense, remains, as the case of Nicaragua makes very clear at present; in all such cases the USSR, unlike Britain, has been on the right side.

A European revolution this century could take place only in Russia, where most men and women had nothing to lose. It was one of those supreme moments, above and beyond the plane of ordinary existence, when men and women have been found capable, even if half-blindly, of a defiance of fate, a *credo quia impossibile*, that has altered human destinies.

Parliamentary reformism makes life doubly comfortable for many or most citizens, but it is all too likely to reduce civic consciousness to "the lore of nicely calculated less or more", of mundane trifles like directors' perks or workers' tea-breaks. Caught in its tenacious web,

encrusted with the dead weight of multiplying vested interests, the collective mind becomes incapable of even thinking or dreaming of a dramatic leap like 1789 or 1917, or any such hurricane changes as the survival of mankind now demands. Instead, the old bourgeois gospel of *Enrichissez-vous*, or Seek ye first the kingdom of Mammon, is being proclaimed afresh, in all its nakedness and ugliness.

Still, it may be hoped the West will be exposed to continuing competition, cultural and ethical above all, from the USSR, and will be compelled to digest some further lessons. Equally clearly, Russia has many things to borrow from the West, not all of a material or utilitarian sort. It too stands in need of far-reaching transformation, in readiness for a fresh advance, and is showing that it has the will and the leadership to embark on this. It is appropriate to its mood of reviving socialist energy and realism that the 70th anniversary of the Revolution is being marked by rehabilitation of all the men who helped to make it and were later destroyed by Stalin. Peaceful coexistence has at the same time a good angry in the fact that the USSR after years of patient effort has come very close to achieving an agreement with America on limitation of nuclear armaments.

In 1935 the Canadian surgeon Norman Bethune, who worked for the Republic in Spain and died in China working with the anti-Japanese resistance, was in Leningrad for a medical conference. He came away comparing revolution to childbirth, and Russia he saw as an infant still struggling for life: those who abused it he dismissed as philistines crippled by "sterility of the soul" and blind to "the most exciting spectacle of the evolutionary, emergent and heroic spirit of man which has appeared on this earth since the Reformation". In spite of all disappointments since then, a socialist can still believe that he was right.

The author is emeritus professor of history at Edinburgh University.

**TOMORROW**  
Coming to terms with Marxism's failure



## Enter a Scots Lord Denning

Michael Ancram assesses the promise of the new Lord Chancellor

he showed that where it is merited he is capable of interesting his English colleagues in adopting and adapting Scottish attitudes to the legal system. The creation of the new prosecution service independent of the police, along the lines of the Scottish system, owes not a little to the advice and encouragement he was able to provide at an early stage.

As Lord Chancellor he will now be able to exert an even greater influence, and this in two distinct ways. As a member of the Cabinet he will have a direct input into legislative reforms, and as the head of the English judiciary he will have the influence which the status of his office naturally and rightly provides. He will undoubtedly make use of both. His years in England since 1979 have given him close contacts with the English legal world, and he has the advantage of bringing to those dealings a level of objectivity not always possible for one raised and nurtured within the system.

So where will these changes come and what form will they take? It is in the nature of government that many of them will be technical and matters of the moment which at present are beyond the bounds of prophecy. It is not however difficult to imagine that he will, at an early stage, bring to bear his own legal experience as a practitioner, a law officer and a judge within the Scottish system.

He has, for instance, had close and reasonably recent involvement in questions of divorce jurisdiction and matrimonial law, the lessons of which could be brought to bear on the question of family courts.

He will equally be able to make useful comparisons between Scottish and English criminal procedure to see what benefits can be gathered from one to the other to the improvement of both. To a Scottish lawyer the need for opening speeches in criminal trials, with all the dangers of potential prejudice to the accused and the costly taking up of time, has long been a matter of puzzlement. The requirement for a judge in England, to rehearse all the evidence, rather than simply that which identifies the issues between the parties, also might benefit from this type of review.

These, however, are specific matters upon which arguments of detail and extent can and will be made. There is one general and substantial area of distinction between the two systems where the Lord Chancellor's influence could prove to be of a major and lasting kind.

While the law of England is substantially based either on statute or on the concept of precedent mitigated by the application of equity, the law of Scotland is, to a large extent, founded on general principles applied with a degree of common sense. In England the

law tends to be very specific, for instance in the strict statutory definition of particular crimes. In Scotland the genus of crime is more generally defined and its application based on the individual circumstances of the trial.

In general, therefore, the Scottish system looks more to principle than precedent and as a result obviates the need for a separate concept of equity to ensure balanced justice. Both as an advocate and as a judge James Mackay has proved himself a champion of the common-sense approach to law in the Scottish tradition, in a way which finds echoes in the judicial life of Lord Denning in England. It may well be that where Lord Denning was often regarded as the exception, the new Lord Chancellor over a period of time will seek to make that approach more of the rule.

His position will allow him gently to bring influence to bear. His relationship with the English judiciary will give him the chance to exercise his undoubted powers of persuasion. His continuing role within the Judicial Committee of the House of Lords will permit him to see principles increasingly applied in the law across the United Kingdom as a whole.

He has the breadth of experience, political and legal, to be a bridge-builder. He has the vision and determination to be a constructive reformer. Above all, he has the unfailing courtesy to win friends and supporters on both sides of the border in the process.

The author is an advocate and former Scottish Office minister.

Digby Anderson

## The reluctant reactionaries

Last week saw the launch of the C.S. Lewis Centre for the study of religion and modernity. Backed by distinguished Orthodox, Catholic and Protestant theologians and dignitaries, it aims to publish studies committed to "trinitarian orthodoxy" and to "fight" modernism and secularism and hold to what C.S. Lewis called "the main road".

At a time when there is evidence of a renewed interest in values and matters moral, the centre's agenda is of potential interest to an audience far wider than practising Christians. If Thatcherism has made a freer and, for many, a richer Britain and promises less state welfare, it makes it appropriate for people to think of the use to which they put that freedom and wealth and their own direct obligations to those in need. It is also clear that a society less ordered by political control must seek its order in shared values articulated and transmitted through the family, the neighbourhood, the church and other institutions between the individual and the state, if it is to avoid chaos, crime and despair.

The centre is manifestly a reaction against moral and theological relativism but it also exemplifies a problem for those of us who are reactionary. It does not describe itself as reactionary: indeed it goes to pains to disavow "nostalgia" for the past, claims a "middle road" and, far from running away from modernity, stresses the importance of confronting it in the light of the spirit rather than the letter of traditional truths and values. Of course, I did not mean it was nothing but reactionary and I certainly did not mean that it was right-wing, whatever that is. But, simply, what was for C.S. Lewis the main road is now, relative to the current climate of beliefs and values, and especially the fudged remarks of many of the leaders of the established church on any question except politics, downright reactionary. And the centre admits as much in saying that modernity poses particularly grave problems.

Why are so many of those who consider that the past did better on some things so edgy about the reactionary component in their thinking being labelled as such? It's partly because of the widespread modern superstition that progress is linear, ubiquitous and remorseless, what Lewis himself called chronological snobbery; partly because of the company one would be seen to be keeping with certain notorious reactionaries; but, I suspect, mostly because no sooner does one identify one's recommendations with a time rather than an idea than one's opponents throw in one's face all the other nasty things which occurred at that time: "So you approve of Victorian patriotism, do you? And I suppose you want to reintroduce child labour as well?" As socialists have found,

it's much easier to present recommendations as new and untried; then there is no empirical evidence with which to attack them.

The opponents, in fact, are right to argue in this fashion. Certain things — though not patriotism and infant chimney sweeps — do go together. You can't just pick and choose from the past. Thus the centre sets limits, albeit generous, on what it considers proper Christianity (trinitarian) and presumably proper morality. These sorts of absolute, if generous, standards go with certain other things. Defining what is right involves defining what is wrong. Defining who is in excludes others who do not meet the definition. Approving this behaviour means disapproving that, and though it does not mean disapproving the person who does that, and though individuals surely are compassionate to those who fail standards, absolute standards tend to lead to the stigmatising and even punishment of whole classes of person. With stigma goes secrecy and with secrecy blackmail. With orthodoxy goes heresy.

Now it is precisely the contention of modernity that these associates of absolute standards are unmitigated and unnecessary evils which belong in the past and that a progressive society can be constructed without judging, condemning, stigmatising, excluding and punishing. Serious critics of modernity make this contention the focus of their criticism. They either see the "evils" as the regrettable price to be paid for values or even embrace them as the cement of a fallen society. Either way, by agreeing to the label reactionary, they throw into the open this, the century's battlefield. To seek to escape the label reactionary, even as applied to only a component of what one says, is to conceal or confuse the most interesting contest of all.

If society is to move away from the do-it-yourself morality and a philosophy of life which, in the Bishop of London's words, acknowledges no authority outside the individual and his "fulfilment" to one where there are negotiable beliefs and values outside him, albeit only in voluntary associations such as a church, then with such beliefs and values will come — no, let's not equivocate — will come back certain things currently seen as unpleasant. When the next General Synod discusses whether to take a firm and clear stand on homosexual acts, this is the pivot of the argument. If it takes such a stand, it will discriminate against homosexuals and make stigma, secrecy and blackmail more likely. That may be bad. It may be unfortunate but necessary. It may be good. But what it is not is optional. With clear stands comes discrimination. Sometimes there is no middle road.

The author is Director of the Social Affairs Unit.

however... Pearson Phillips

## A hair-raising experiment

Looking back, I don't know what made me do it. Was it because I was on an old sailing boat? Were the vibrations from salty old Players Navy Cut cigarettes coming out of the oak timbers? It wasn't very long ago but it was a decision which has changed my whole view of life.

To be more specific, it has changed my view of that bit of life I see when I look in the mirror. I used to be Gregory Peck. Now it's Ernest Hemingway. At least, I think it's Ernest Hemingway. My barber tells me that's the effect he is after, and I'm not going to argue. It's my first beard. Having one of my own has made me look around and see that they are sprouting everywhere. I'm sorry to have to break the news to the after-shave industry, but there's a definite rush of hair to the face. Curious. Shaving has never been easier yet fewer people seem to be doing it. I suspect we are heading towards a return to Victorian facial values. In the public mind, beard is no longer automatically linked to weird.

It is tempting to wander down lush avenues of sexual speculation. Is it because growing a beard is one thing, about the only thing, that women can't do? I certainly got a strange satisfaction out of causing confusion in that moment of modern mores, a Unisex barber's shop, by asking for the male equivalent of the renaissance of the mini-skirt?

Shaving, my local anthropologist informs me, is acknowledged in tribal circles throughout the world as "an appeasement display". Shaving is a way of appearing unthreatening to women. This is an appalling revelation. Was that what I was doing, finching with blunt blades when the hot water had failed? It grieves me most to remember those grim years before stainless steel blades or the disposable razor, all that stropping and experimenting with yet more complex shaving inventions, most of which ended up congealed with dried soap and rust in the cupboard beside the bathroom basin. Was it all in the cause of appearing unthreatening to women? It never did me any good. The time had come to see what a beard would do.

I started mine under several

misapprehensions. I thought all you had to do was stand back and let it grow. But it's important to make some planning decisions. You can no more trust a beard to behave itself than you can abandon a lawn or leave a hedge to its own devices. There are, for example, two small parts on each side of the lower chin where the ground seems to be more fertile and from which the hair sprouts at a far speedier rate than from neighbouring portions. I have seen some unfortunate walking around who have let these bits get out of control. They look like Trollian arch-deacons.

Just in time for the new hair wave, modern technology has produced an electric beard trimmer, which, like a lawnmower, has an adjustable spacer arrangement which allows beards to be cut to an even length. I am modelling mine on the short rough on the seventeenth at Wentworth.

Things have changed, of course, since the last bearded era. It should no longer be necessary for anyone to go as far as W.G. Grace, whose beard helped him to maintain his authority against a succession of four wives; or poor, timid Mr Edward Lear, whose married growth protected him from succumbing to any.

We shall need some new names and styles more fitting to contemporary life. The Imperial is hardly appropriate; nor is the Van Dyck or the Dunderberg. We shall have the Anderson at one extreme and the unkempt Billy Connolly at the other. I can see Peter Halls catching on among the theatrical set; sparse, economical Richard Bransons for the young tycoon.

And how are you getting on with it, people ask. I confess to them that there have been some problems. You have to be careful when eating corn on the cob in public. In fact I would definitely recommend people with beards to eat corn on the cob in private.

Yes, yes. But what about, you know, the effect on the women? Pretty satisfactory, actually. A general unconditional surrender. Quite a lot of them have stroked it. A few say they are specially keen on the distinguished looking grey bits. And the tough one, the one it's all about, took one look at it and said: "For God's sake, shave off that stupid beard."

Excellent. It must be working.



by Anderson  
reluctant  
tionaries



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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### AVOIDING RECESSION

Stock markets have crashed so fast that governments must turn a series of mental somersaults to keep up. In Britain, the first task was to assure everyone that the economy was sound, that share price falls had been imported from the United States, that the panic was irrational. It soon became clear, however, that the markets were not suffering from an immediately reversible aberration. So the second phase was discreet help for the markets — small cuts in interest rates. This alone required swift gymnastics in the Treasury, which had until then been used to market fears that the economy was overheating. The speed and unanimity with which finance ministers changed their stance is itself encouraging.

Just one week after the crash, a third phase has been reached. The fall has become so severe that it could, in the manner of an oil price shock, cut growth in the world economy and therefore damage Britain's economic prospects. Mr Lawson, like his counterparts around the world, has a new priority: to limit the damage.

If their minds can keep up, politicians must still tread the line between an appearance of complacency or panic. This was evident yesterday in the Commons exchanges on the Government's sale of BP shares. Mr Lawson has so far coped well, combining confidence in the robustness of the British economy — exemplified by yesterday's survey results from the CBI — with readiness for international action and an awareness that domestic measures may be necessary to ride "the stormier period we may be in".

The coincidence of the Government's biggest share sale with the market collapse has cast the decision to go ahead or cancel as a touchstone of the Government's reaction to events. That is probably false casting. The issue is too party political, not least in terms of confidence in the Government's reputation for consistency and determination, to be viewed strictly in terms of economic management. If the sale does go ahead, however, the Bank of England should minimize whatever further damage is done to stock market confidence

both in London and New York by underwriting losses and the drain of funds.

The real leadership test will be whether governments give international cooperation priority over their domestic preoccupations. Central banks must stand behind financial institutions by guaranteeing their solvency. This is hardly in doubt in London. It is more an issue in New York and in Hong Kong, where the leading banks have made a good start.

Monetary authorities then need to switch their tactics to address deflation, brought by a loss of creditworthiness. The key lies in Bonn, as Mr Lawson has noted. The signs are good, but a cautious Bundesbank, like other central banks, will have to keep its nerve as the flight into cash temporarily swells the money supply figures.

If banks are supported and money is supplied when necessary, stock market collapses will not lead to economic collapse as they did after 1929. But more systematic co-operation to maintain stable exchange rates and avoid competition in interest rates will be needed to remove the threat of a recession on the scale of those following the oil shocks.

That will only be feasible if distortions in the American economy are eased and the protectionist tide stopped. Here the onus is on President Reagan and the US Congress to put aside fixed ideas and electoral preoccupations. So far there have only been fine words. A sensible compromise is possible. The President should abandon his refusal to raise taxes to bring next year's Budget deficit within its target. The Congress should abandon its malign agenda of protection.

That is not something on which Europeans can rely. The United States itself, followed by the Far Eastern economies, would be hardest hit by political failure. Germany, Britain the rest of the EEC have less distorted economies, less closely integrated with the fate of financial markets. Like Japan, they have also learnt lessons from having to cope with the dollar's rise and fall. That is a good reason for Mr Lawson to adapt but not abandon his policies.

### SUB-CONTINENTAL DEMOCRACY

The political arrests in Bangladesh this week are a reminder of how poorly democracy has fared in the Indian sub-continent. A worried General-turned-President, resentful of the opposition's ability to bring out supporters, arrests its leadership. Yet, he calls himself a democrat and Bangladesh a democracy.

Much the same is the case at the other end of the sub-continent, in Pakistan. Only a carefully scrutinised selection of hapless politicians is allowed to share power with the military. Neither Bangladesh nor Pakistan are democracies as the term is understood by those countries which are. In the sub-continent only India can lay claim to that title.

There, despite its many faults and serious lapses — the emergency declared by Mrs Gandhi in 1975 being the worst — the democratic system bequeathed by the Raj has survived. Nationally and regionally, elections are held regularly. The ruling parties often lose, but the verdict has always been obeyed. Most importantly, the power of the vote has sunk into popular consciousness. Even if he cannot read or write, or is burdened by generations of rural poverty, the Indian peasant knows that he can make or break the Government. The Government knows it too. That is the essence of democracy.

But why in India and not in Pakistan and Bangladesh? After all, the three states underwent the same colonial experience and share close ties of history, geography, culture and kinship. Perhaps the answers lie in the small accidents no one could have foreseen.

Mohammed Ali Jinnah, Pakistan's founder, died within 13 months of its creation. His domination of pre-independence Muslim politics and his determination to secure a separate Muslim state had been sufficient to force partition. But his absence thereafter left a great gap. The semi-feudal provinces which formed Pakistan (and at the time included Bangladesh) lacked any other leader of stature to nurture the difficult discipline of democracy. Politicians were simply too nervous of being dislodged from their precarious perches.

### BETTER THAN A HOTEL

Westminster City Council appears ready to retreat from its sensible plan to house homeless families in prefabricated homes in the outer London suburb of Barking. It should not.

Like every other inner London borough, Westminster is compelled by law to spend large amounts of ratepayers' money to keep homeless families in hotel rooms. Some 250 families are at present supported by Westminster Council in this way, at an annual cost of £10,000 per family.

This is unsatisfactory in every way. The families live in unpleasant, often dirty conditions. Greedy and unscrupulous landlords make vast profits. There is no incentive for those landlords to improve the accommodation because they are being subsidised by the State. So less well-off tourists cannot find good, moderately priced hotel rooms because hotels are often full of homeless families. Nor can people from regions of high unemployment, visiting London for a few days to look for work.

Westminster Council decided it would be more sensible to house some families in temporary prefabricated homes. These do not at all resemble the "prefabs" put up at the end of the last war; today's prefabricated home is much better appointed — more like a holiday bungalow. It needs scarcely any assembling. The council's only major task would be to install electricity and roads.

Since land in Westminster is not available, the council approached various institutions who might have land not currently in use and which could be cheaply leased. The Central Electricity Generating Board came up with a site in Barking, which Westminster planned to

The explanation for this pusillanimity has a lot to do with the character of the country they ruled. Pakistan was granted by the British in response to the political demands of Muslims from central India, where as a minority they felt insecure. So the new country's leaders were "refugees" in the areas they came to rule. As a result they lacked the confidence to test their acceptability. They simply continued in office because the departing Raj had left them there. It was not long before the Army joined them. Under Ayub, Yahya and Zia it just took over.

Ultimately, the failure of Pakistani democracy lies in the Army's close ties with the country's landlords and bureaucracy. The three elements come from the same dominant feudal class. In the 1950s, as the grip of civilian politicians loosened, the bureaucracy and the landowners welcomed the Army's intervention. Since then a coalition of mutual interests has developed, cementing that alliance. The civilian structure coalescing around the Army secured its position whilst creating the illusion of democracy.

Bangladesh, in 1971, had a real opportunity to put down democratic roots. The independence war politicised the population and created a foundation for civilian rule. But the massacre of the Awami League's leaders in 1975, at the hands of the Army, stunted political development. Since then the best that can be said is that elements of the Army have attempted to provide an alternative political party. Power, of course, has stayed with the mainstream of the military.

In India, for 60 years before independence, the Congress Party had tirelessly inculcated political values in the countryside. So, when it became a ruling party, with Nehru at its helm, and a host of other leaders in its ranks, the democratic ideals it fought for were protected and furthered. Pakistan's Muslim League and later Bangladesh's Awami League were incapable of taking this road. They remained vehicles of personal ambition and faded when their leaders died. Congress is the key to Indian democracy.

lease for five years. The intention was to install 45 prefabricated houses, at an overall cost of £1.4 million, or £20,000 per house — far cheaper, over a five-year period, than putting up families in hotels.

Westminster's decision resulted in an immediate campaign of protest by Barking Council, controlled by Labour. Barking claims that Westminster is trying to offload its problems, as well as to export potential Labour voters in order to strengthen the hold of the Conservatives on Westminster Council. Protesting that Barking services are stretched to the limit, it now intends to refuse planning permission.

Barking's excuse has been received with irritation by Westminster Council. It is common practice for London boroughs to go outside their own boundaries in sheltering the homeless. Westminster's own hotels, for example, are host to 2,000 homeless families sent from other London boroughs. But the council has been sufficiently stung by the criticism to admit defeat.

On the contrary, if Barking Council does indeed refuse planning permission, Westminster should appeal to the Department of the Environment. The Government should insist that other London boroughs follow Westminster's example. In time, the Government will have to decide a long-term policy to house London's urban poor. Until then, it would be better by far to house homeless families in decent, if temporary, conditions than to condemn them, at vast expense, to an insubstantial life in seedy hotels in the inner city.

### Loosening up Sunday for sport

From the Secretary of the Central Council of Physical Recreation and others

Sir, Though clearly anachronistic and restrictive, the requirements of the Sunday Observance Act of 1780 continue to exert a limp yet significant grip on British sporting activity.

Sunday sport is a reality. For many millions of people in Britain Sunday is the family day for the enjoyment of leisure time. A whole variety of British sports events, including the men's singles final at Wimbledon, the Sunday Cricket League, the final round of the Open Golf Championship, and the British Grand Prix, now take place on Sunday.

It is unfortunate, however, that the administrators and officials responsible for arranging Sunday sports events on an entrance-paid basis are forced to do so by means of subterfuge and contrived practices. The admirable Sunday Sports Bill, introduced in the House of Lords by Lord Wyatt, has the full support of those governing bodies of sport which wish to promote their activities in a legal and responsible manner.

With the wholehearted support of the House of Lords and the good will of the House of Commons, Sunday can and should be established as a legitimate and legally-acceptable occasion for the enjoyment of all forms of sporting activity.

We, the officers responsible for so much amateur and professional sport on a year-round basis, believe that spiritual and physical recreation are not mutually exclusive and we hope that the opportunity presented by the Bills of Lord Wyatt and Nicholas Soames with the support of Denis Howell will be grasped by Parliament.

Yours faithfully,

PETER LAWSON (General Secretary, The Central Council of Physical Recreation).

HARRY BOOTH (President, Amateur Swimming Association).

NEVILLE GOSS (Chairman, Auto-Cycle Union).

GRAHAM AXFORD (Chairman, Badminton Association of England).

ALAN SMITH (Secretary, The Cricket Council).

BERT MILLICHP (Chairman, The Football Association).

F. J. UNDERHILL (Secretary, British Greyhound Racing Board).

CHRISTOPHER FOSTER (Secretary, The Jockey Club).

GEOFF BROWN (President, Lawn Tennis Association).

JOHN CAMERON-HAYES (Chief Executive, The Racecourse Association).

PETER HAMMOND (Chief Executive, RAC Motor Sports Association).

BOB ASHBY (Chairman, Rugby Football League).

JOHN BURGESS (President, Rugby Football Union).

MICHAEL LIMB (Chairman, Speedway Control Board).

The Central Council of Physical Recreation, Francis House, Francis Street, SW1, October 27.

### From the Director of the Keep Sunday Special Campaign

Sir, May I articulate our concerns about the Sunday Sports Bill, sponsored by Lord Wyatt of Weeford, which will reach the House of Lords committee stage on November 5. The Bill covers all professional sport. The major new Sunday sport is likely to be horse racing and, perhaps, in time, football.

There are no safeguards in the Bill for those employed at sports "tracks" on Sunday, nor for the many employed in supporting services such as transport and the police. Major environmental disruption is in prospect for those living near sports tracks and complexes. Ask residents close to White Hart Lane!

The Bill allows residents no say in whether and when facilities are allowed to open. There is no protection for those working in on-course or off-course betting facilities, which we believe will affect close to 40,000 families. In Ireland they have Sunday racing without opening betting shops.

Finally, the Bill shows no concern for players and jockeys. Many already show signs of extreme pressure and fatigue. They, too, have a right to family life. With evidence of fixture-clogging and congestion in many sports, is the public good really being served by more Sunday sport?

Yours faithfully,

MICHAEL SHLUTER, Director, Keep Sunday Special Campaign, 3 Hooper Street, Cambridge, October 27.

### Paying for Trident

From Mr James A. A. McCoy

Sir, Sir James Eberle's analysis of the factors currently generating debate over the ownership of the Trident missiles (article, October 23) is both accurate and clear. In particular, he has cogently expressed the step-change — downwards — in technical independence represented by the decision that the missiles should be serviced in the USA rather than in Britain.

However, in his concluding analogy, Sir James's argument falls well of the mark. It is, of course, quite unnecessary to know the arrangements through which one's neighbour's car is financed (provided one is reasonably sure his insurance is paid-up). But surely it represents the height of incompetence and irresponsibility to be unaware of the financial provenance of one's own transport? And Trident, after all, is supposed to be ours — not our neighbour's.

Yours etc,

JAMES A. A. MCCOY, The International Institute for Strategic Studies, 23 Tavistock Street, WC2, October 26.

### Sauce for the goose

From Mr Michael Reilly

Sir, The letter (October 12) from Mr D. C. O'Sullivan, HM Treasury Branch, The Institution of Professional Civil Servants, will be read with very sympathy by members of other, but similarly-placed groups. The pay and pensions of those who have served in the National Health Service have been subjected to the same "rationalisation".

To take one instance only: those doctors who had worked in the NHS since its inception in 1948 were promised that war service between 1939 and 1945 would count towards their pension on retirement. Each year spent as a medical officer in the Armed Services would add a "notional" six months to years subsequently spent in the NHS.

There are few now left who fulfil these conditions, so they form a politically negligible group. Many of them, just after the war, especially those married and with families, found that if they wished to continue to study in their spare time to obtain higher specialist qualifications, the pursuit of which had been interrupted by hostilities, the fees for courses and examinations were more than they

could afford on the salary provided by the NHS.

There were no grants then. They opted to have their compulsory superannuation contributions returned for the first few months or year of their service in order to finance their studies, at no cost to the State. When they could afford it they asked if they could pay back their contributions. They were told that this was not allowed.

A doctor with six years of war service who worked for the NHS from 1948, but was only able to contribute regularly towards superannuation from 1949, found on retirement that not only had he lost a year of pensionable NHS service — that could be understood, as he had been prevented from paying towards it — but all his war years as well. Technically there had been a lapse of continuity of service. Presumably the years 1945-1948 were in limbo.

Representations by individuals and by the BMA were turned down. It is understood that the interpretation of the relevant regulations lay with the Civil Servants at HM Treasury.

Yours faithfully,

MICHAEL REILLY, Magnolia Cottage, Harrowbeer Lane, Yelverton, Devon.

### Alarms for elderly

From the Chairman of the Care Trust Ltd

Sir, Many elderly and handicapped people and those caring for them will be grateful to Lady Salmon (October 14) for drawing attention to one potentially serious effect of the proposed changes in the housing-benefit regulations. May I add another reason to those put forward by her in urging HM Government to think again?

There are many cases where hospitals are willing to discharge patients for short or long-term convalescence provided they can have electronic alarms in their homes. Obviously, most of these cases arise where patients' homes are in dispersed housing, yet housing-benefit cover will now be denied them. Without the facility, hospitals will delay discharge (I know of many cases where this condition has been made).

One of the great advantages of the modern type of electronic alarm is its flexibility: it can be installed and removed with relative ease. It is surprising that the Government does not take an opposite view and seek to encourage the development of a cheap but effective tool that could help to forward its plans for care in the community.

### Going to root of tree problems

From the Director of Research of the Forestry Commission

Sir, Professor Stearn (October 18) calls for work to investigate the trees damaged by the recent gale. We endorse this view and have already started work.

A survey our pathologists made of root systems of trees blown down by the January 1, 1976, gale across the Midlands showed that 57 per cent of trees had decay present in their roots. Our current survey includes trees which at first sight appear not to have decayed roots.

Detailed information is being gathered about trees growing on a range of soil types in urban and rural situations, in parks, in streets and in hedges. It is hoped that from the data collected we will be able to make more positive recommendations for management of landscape trees.

Observations already to hand confirm Professor Stearn's observations that hard surfaces, kerbs and service trenches materially influence the development of a root system.

A free pamphlet is available from the commission containing advice to owners of trees damaged or uprooted by the gale.

Yours faithfully,

A. J. GRAYSON, Director of Research, Forestry Commission, Alice Holt Lodge, Wrecclesham, Farnham, Surrey, October 23.

From Mr Charles Bazlinton

Sir, In order to ensure that some personal injury and property damage from falling trees is avoided in the future (Mr D. R. Huntingford, October 23), I suggest that it

### Curb on culture

From Professor Emeritus A. Nove

Sir, As you know, Glasgow was selected as Culture City of Europe for the year 1990. You may also be aware that the city is to receive no financial support for this from Government sources, in striking contrast to the behaviour of (conservative but more cultured) governments of France and Germany in similar circumstances.

The city lacks an adequate concert hall and so the council decided to have one built in time for 1990. Plans were ready. But no: the Government has forbidden the city to borrow the necessary sum.

Is this philistine obstructionism due to blind adherence to public-sector borrowing requirement targets, or is it just petty spite motivated by the fact that Glasgow citizens did not vote Conservative? What of the commitment to inner-city renewal? Yours truly,

ALEC NOVE, 55 Hamilton Drive, Glasgow.

### Fishy story

From Mr Michael Waller

Sir, Your fourth leader of October 17 could, we think, have been better researched and must by now have attracted a veritable bombardment from exophiles.

A pike taken from Lough Conn weighed a mere 53lb, but this was after an 11lb salmon was removed from its stomach. A pike of 6ft in length could be in the 80lb class. We once picked up a pike of 44lb with a 2½ pounder half-way down its gullet.

Both had died in the attempt but the proportions suggest the possibility of a 40lb feed for an 80 pounder. Smith (*Fishes of the British Isles*, J. Travis Jenkins, London, 1925) relates how a pike of 8lb took on a salmon of about the same size and swallowed it as it was progressively digested over a period of three days.

At this school we open trout daily as part of a monitoring of feeding patterns and often a small number of recently-taken food is still alive.

You might, however, have pointed out that the teeth of a pike incline inwards and many are hinged. This facilitates the passage of large objects but makes it very difficult to remove anything by the same entrance. Nothing short of a Caesarean would have released the dog in time.

The nets, which were probably being used for salmon or sturgeon, could have been gill nets and could trap a pike.

In this time of glasnost and Loch Ness monsters, I think we should be prepared to give the Russians the benefit of the doubt.

Yours faithfully,

MICHAEL WALLER, School of Casting, Salmon & Trout Fishing, Pontoon Bridge Hotel, Foxford, Co Mayo, Republic of Ireland, October 18.

### Word of honour

From Mr H. M. Croome

Sir, Some years ago I was defending a Chinese in the Old Street magistrates' court. When asked to take the oath (letter, October 21) the defendant asked for a saucer, declaring it was essential. A saucer from the police canteen was produced.

Holding the saucer aloft my client said: "May my soul be broken as this saucer is broken if I do not tell the truth." Then he hurled the saucer to the ground. It bounced with a ringing note and hurtled across the court room quite undamaged.

Yours faithfully,

H. M. CROOME, Borough Hill, Thaxted, Essex, October 22.

should not be permitted to place a tree preservation order on any tree which could fall on a public right of way or on a dwelling.

Yours faithfully,

CHARLES BAZLINTON, Trees, The Avenue, Alresford, Hampshire, October 23.

From Mr J. R. Miller

Sir, Mr Ridley's enthusiasm in helping to dispose of fallen trees is commendable (photograph, October 24). One cannot, however, say the same of his dress for the occasion, surely, the Secretary of State for the Environment should set a better example when operating such a potentially lethal piece of equipment as a chain saw?

In addition to ear protectors, Mr Ridley should have worn a hard hat and visor and also padded overall. Perhaps Mr Ridley's employer should be charged under the Health and Safety at Work Act...

Yours,

J. R. MILLER, 8 Mellerstain, Gordon, Berwickshire.

### ON THIS DAY

OCTOBER 28 1704

Frederick Duke of York (1703-1707), second son of George III, commanded the British troops in an unsuccessful campaign in the Low Countries. He was no match for the revolutionary fervour of the French; his military prowess was derided in the ditty, "The grand old Duke of York..."

### LONDON GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY

MONDAY, OCT. 27

WHITEHALL, Oct. 26, 1704.

A dispatch, of which the following is a copy, was this day received from his Royal Highness the Duke of York, by the Right Hon. Henry Dundas, one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State.

Head-quarters, Namur, Oct. 24, 1704.

SIR,

Yesterday morning the enemy attacked the whole of the advanced posts of my right wing, in great force, particularly that of Drutsh, which was defended by the 37th Regiment, and that of Applethorn, where the Prince of Rohan's Light Battalion was posted. Nothing could exceed the gallantry with which the whole of the troops on the advanced posts (particularly those two corps), behaved; but at last the post on the left of the 37th Regiment, which was occupied by a detachment of Rohan's Hussars, having been forced, Major Hope, who commanded the 37th, and who distinguished himself exceedingly, was obliged to retreat upon the dyke along the Wall, where he continued for some time, without being much annoyed by the enemy. Unfortunately, however, a strong body of the enemy's Hussars being mistaken for the corps of Rohan, the regiment allowed them to come upon them unopposed, when the Hussars immediately attacked; and the narrowness of the dyke, which on every other occasion must have afforded a security to the infantry, in this instance acted against them, as they were driven off it by the enemy's charge, and I am sorry to say, have suffered very considerably.

As they were upon the advanced posts I have not yet received an exact return of their loss, but I understand that Captains Baird, Hendley and Duff, Lieutenants Mitchell, Thompson, Colquhoun and Murray, with the Quarter-Master Mr. Duxall, were made prisoners; of which number Captain Duff, Lieutenants Mitchell and Colquhoun, are wounded. All the prisoners who were taken agreed in the intelligence that the enemy had brought over Thirty Thousand Men; and at the same time I received the report that a very considerable body of them, having passed the Meuse between Burenarde and Venlo, were advancing upon my left flank, and had already taken possession of Cleve.

Under these circumstances, (never having intended to risk an Action in my present position) which I only kept in order to preserve a communication with Grave, and to cover the reparations which were intended to have been made to the fortifications of this place, I determined to pass the Wall, and to take up the different entrenchments, which were already marked out for the defence of the river, leaving General Walmoden, with a corps, to cover the town.

Part of the troops began their march yesterday evening, and the remainder this morning, without any molestation from the enemy.

I am, &c.

FREDERICK.

P.S. I am sorry to add, that Lieut. Wadman, of the Light Infantry of the 37th Regiment, who was upon picket, and had distinguished himself by his intrepidity and prudence, is also dangerously wounded, and was brought in the evening to this town.

Right Hon. H. Dundas, &c. &c. &c.






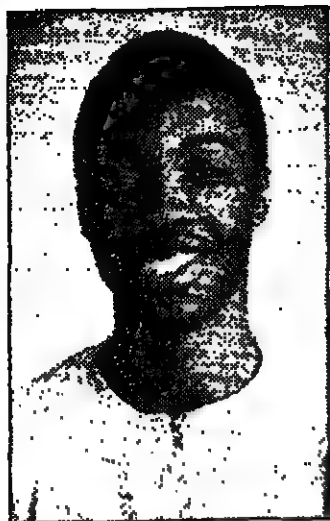









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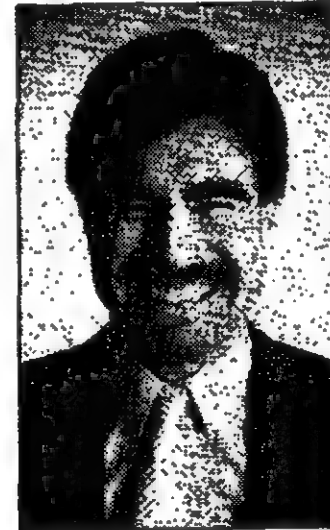
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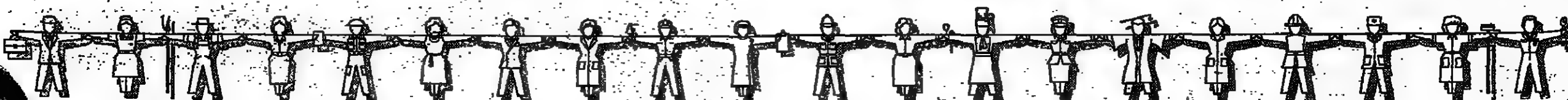
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## WEDNESDAY PAGE

# Goodbye flower power

Can country style survive without Laura Ashley's busy prints? Will the empire's new no-frills clothes thrill the faithful? Victoria McKee reports

Recently the message from Laura Ashley has been that life is not a bed of roses. You may have seen their advertising campaign: "Where have all the flowers gone?"

"Those itchy-bitsy flower prints have all but disappeared; it's been not a revolution but an evolution," John James, group managing director of Laura Ashley Holdings, explains. "This campaign is merely to bring reality and expectation together."

When Laura Ashley died after a fall in 1985, many expected the empire founded on her kitchen table to lose its way without her guiding spirit. But the international company, with over 7,500 employees worldwide, knew that Laura Ashley's fresh country essence had long since been distilled into a corporate entity that could bowl along merrily on its own momentum.

Any shockwaves after Laura Ashley's untimely death were personal, not professional, James maintains. "Bernard always ran the business anyway, whatever people on the outside thought. We all know that. He was the leader all along - and he's the one we always looked to."

Bernard is Laura's husband, Sir Bernard Ashley, chairman of the group, which confidently predicts a turnover of £220 million for the year ending next January or approximately pre-tax profits of £26 million.

"It was to Laura's credit that she had already trained design teams to take over her function - that was the strength of what Bernard and Laura created: a team of people that could take the inspiration of a single flower and turn it into wonderful,

workable prints," James continues.

The company tries to be true to its late founder's wishes even down to the wholesome, home-made casseroles employees eat off pretty china on laminated chintz tablecloths for about 30p a plateful. Laura was adamant that all her staff should have healthy food at subsidized prices - and fried food still remains strictly forbidden.

John James has been a stalwart of the company for 14 years and could be described as a bluff, likeable Welshman with an easy-going manner. It is not that he so actively discourages the cult of the personality and would prefer not to be described at all.

If this seems an odd policy for a company very much founded on a personality, it is nevertheless rigidly adhered to at all levels. Laura's son, Nick Ashley, who has taken up his mother's mantle and wears the title of creative director, refuses interviews and photographs on this ground. But he does not mind immortalizing his mischievous Welsh terrier Clem, the terror of the Fulham design centre, in a series of children's books. Ashley, on sale in their own shops as well as booksellers, are a very visible part of the empire.

Tomorrow both the Laura Ashley Bedrooms book and Laura Ashley Style will be published. The latter, a lavishly illustrated hardback, demonstrates how Ashley style has evolved from its inspiration in past traditions and has been predicted to become a runaway best-seller for Christmas in the United States, which claims 40 per cent of Laura Ashley's world market.

In Britain, Laura Ashley



Curtain raiser John James: "The itchy-bitsy flower prints have all but disappeared; it's been not a revolution but an evolution"

still has a comfortable High Street feel, and its fashions are primarily popular with Sionnes, young and old, and museli-belt mothers, but abroad it is considered expensive, exotic - the epitome of British style.

Ask French women what British fashion means to them, and nine out of 10 will say "Laura Ashley!" France is already a firm fan with concessions in most of the major department stores. In Japan, Laura Ashley opened a shop in the Ginza, a nightclub area somewhat like Soho, last year and invested 50-50 in it with Jusco - Japan United Stores. It proved such a success that there are now five shops in Japan with 30 the goal in the next two years. Spain is the next target.

The company's aggressive new policy is light years away from its beginnings, cosily recalled in Laura Ashley Style,

which tells how, in 1953, with an initial investment of £10, "while Bernard Ashley went off to work in the City, his young wife Laura snatched time from looking after her children to produce tablemats and headscarves on a crude and laborious silk screen machine, with the aim of selling them to local shops and department stores."

Now Laura Ashley snaps up small, quality businesses funded in some thematic way to its image. Penhaligon's, the Victorian floral perfumers, was the first to fall this month, for £1 million. The next day the US branch of the company announced the acquisition for \$3 million of the American Preppie fashion stalwart Willis & Geiger, who made hunting gear for Teddy Roosevelt and flying kit for Amelia Earhart.

"We will develop these businesses separately," James stressed. "We believe in organic growth, building brick on brick, if you like - not just plastering our wallpaper over everything."

To exploit the lucrative American "grandmother's market," the Mother & Child concept - branchchild of the oldest Ashley son, David - was born. "We noticed a gap in the market," James says. "We wanted to do pretty dresses and party clothes that would tempt doting grandparents." The first Mother & Child designs will be test-marketed in the British shops in the spring.

The main objective in Britain is to capture that vital younger female customer - "21 or aspiring to be 21," as Amanda Carr, deputy merchandise manager (UK) calls her. "We are aware that we are

the sort of shop girls tend to come in with their mothers," she admits. "But we are updating our whole collection to appeal to a younger, more fashion conscious woman."

An inspirational sketch in Amanda's workroom at the firm's retail headquarters in Maidenhead, Berkshire, shows a mini-skirted model striding out, hands in the pockets of her minimal, shoulder-padded, plain-wool gabardine suit. Nothing flowery about her, and you'd certainly never spot her as a Laura Ashley dresser.

"Our skirts won't ever be quite that short," Amanda qualifies, adding proudly, "but, yes, we are getting into power dressing at last!"

Just when the rest of the world (judging from the recent fashion shows) has moved on to chintzy florals.

## Big hearts of the Big Bang

How an enterprising group of women persuaded the City to provide cash for shares and give the profits to charity

After showing the world in quick succession two of its less acceptable faces - greed and fear - the City tomorrow will unveil a third, more caring, charitable face.

The chairman of the Stock Exchange, Sir Nicholas Goodison, will announce the result of the Holborn Great Investment Race. Every penny of the huge profits made (fortunately it ended before the crash) will be handed over to three women who run Charity Projects, which thought up the idea.

"We are different because we don't ask people to give us money but to make us money by doing what they are good at," explained Jane Tewson, who was aged only 25 when she had the idea for the organization three years ago.

All the same, it took a fair bit of nerve for her fellow director, Fiona Halton, to go into the City and look for a sponsor who would put up the stakes for the race. After some anxious weeks of searching, Prudential Holborn Unit Trusts invited her to a meeting over breakfast. By the end of it, their managers had offered to put up £210,000 as an interest-free loan, to be divided among six teams of investment managers from well known City houses.

Who won the race will be known tomorrow, but the stake money has raised £924,432 - a 340 per cent increase. And the investment race is only the latest in a series of good ideas.

In hard cash the takings have risen spectacularly from £121,000 in the first year to more than £2 million this year. Charity Projects works from a Soho office at 21 D'Arbury Street, London W1, but nothing, not even the cost of a paperclip, is deducted in administrative costs. Everything is sponsored.

One of Tewson's principles was that the charities should

be ones that other grant-making organizations do not reach. They are small-scale efforts dedicated to the problems of homelessness, mental and physical handicaps and drug and alcohol abuse, particularly among young people of 15 to 25, who fall outside the net of most fund raising.



The persuaders (left to right): Graham, Tewson and Halton

This is where the third member of the trio, Judy Graham, grants director of Charity Projects, comes in. She travels Britain finding, inspecting and following up applicants, who are then approved by a grants committee. One of the 50 small beneficiaries of the Great Investment Race is Centrepoint, which runs a shelter in Soho used by 2,000 homeless people aged 19 or under each year.

Tewson admits that part of her still feels a longing to be out and involved in the shelters and hostels. "As long as I can go to visit projects frequently, I love what I'm doing, although you'll sometimes find me in tears. What makes it bearable is the huge reservoir of supporters that we've got now."

Peter Lewis

## Painter working in oil

A Scottish artist is capturing the oil rigs' vanishing way of life

"People always ask, why don't I do pretty landscapes?" Instead Sue-Jane Taylor paints oil rigs and their workers and tomorrow will receive one of this year's Glenfiddich Living Scotland awards.

Her work, lining the wall of her London studio, is neither romantic nor brutal. These are portraits of weary men, working hard to make money in an unforgiving environment. "They're all people I have come to know personally. I don't think I could have such insight into them if I wasn't Scottish."

Sue-Jane, aged 26, comes from the Black Isle, a peninsula near Inverness, and witnessed the effects of the oil boom in her teens. "The affluence in the area became apparent within a year. What I remember was drinking and gambling in the village. We were against the development."

Her opinion mellowed when she went to art school in Aberdeen and realized that the jobs provided by the oil industry meant that the local workforce could stay in the Highlands. "And now I'm very sad because the oil is declining and everyone's leaving."

Her creative interest in the



Work in progress: Sue-Jane Taylor in her London studio

industry was stimulated by a trip out to a rig when the Starting Shipping Company commissioned 12 Scottish artists to produce prints marking its role in the offshore industry, but the weather was too wild to allow transportation on to the rig itself.

Sue-Jane wrote to the oil companies asking for permission to visit their rigs so that she could assemble a body of work solely concerned with the oil industry and earlier this summer Occidental organized a four-day stay on a rig in Piper A Field.

"It's quite depressing - the men know the real excitement is over in the North Sea." She spent her time sketching and taking photographs, especially at night, wandering through the noisy, vibrating walkways.

She has given up her post at Slade, where she has been teaching print-making, so that

she can devote all her time to the project. Her award of £3,000 will help, but she is constantly looking for new sponsors. Next year she intends to visit three construction yards to provide her work with an on-shore element, and she is already planning a major touring exhibition and a book.

She is not unaware of the irony of her position - the fact that her life is now so closely involved with an industry she initially rejected and that, based in London, she has become one of those exiles whose departure she once mourned.

She grimaces slightly at this. "I think it's good to move away from your environment and see it from an 'outside angle' and then the great stimulus in London. But I love Scotland, nothing beats it."

Fionnuala McHugh

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## BRIEFLY

A round-up of news, views and information

### Stocking stunners

Charity Christmas catalogues are still often crammed with things you probably hope not to find in your pillow-case.

The canniest charities, however, this year seem to have learned that good design when teamed with a good cause is an irresistible combination. Christmas treasures from the World Wildlife Fund catalogue (available free, telephone 04868 20551) include a traditional Noah's Ark, carved from British hardwoods (£59.95) and a giant T-shirt designed by the Emanuels (£14.95). Meanwhile, in the National Trust's catalogue (also free if you telephone 0225 705676, or from NT shops) you will find appropriately cottage-shaped boxes of fudge (£2.50), stylish spongeware china (from £7.50) and an exclusive Halcyon Days enamel NT trinket box (£52.50).



### Quote Me...

"We fought and we marched for equality all over the United States. People died. But it was never like South Africa, it was never that bad. If the world saw enough is enough, if it isolates South Africa with sanctions and whatever else it takes, apartheid will go."

Corretta Scott King, widow of Martin Luther King

### Running on

Joggers wary of running in the dark, for fear of attack, needn't abandon their fitness regime. The Sisters' Network can put women runners of all standards in touch with nearby "running mates".

Apart from the safety aspect - pairs of joggers are far less likely to fall victim - there's extra motivation when two people are involved. The keen should dispatch a large SAE to Reebok Running Sisters Network, 57-61 Mortimer Street, W1N 7TD.

Josephine Fairley

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## In the City

Amidst all the panic, the mayhem, the furious ups and downs of the stockmarket over the past week there remain certain areas in the City which continue to grow and flourish. The Mergers and Acquisitions Dept. of this long established US Bank, has been steadily expanding, creating promotion opportunities for all those involved. For example, the P.A. to a senior Executive has secured a non-secretarial position creating an opening for someone else to

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## THE ARTS

## OPERA

## Cinders without charm

Cendrillon  
Wexford Festival

Under successive festival directors Wexford has remained faithful to Massenet. *Cendrillon* this year is the sixth of his operas to be seen here and that figure includes none of the easier options like *Manon* and *Werther*.

It is slightly surprising that *Cendrillon*, or *Cinderella*, should have taken so long to surface here: by Wexford standards it is positively familiar. This is thanks mainly to a production by Brian Macdonald which began in Ottawa, was staged widely in North America then in Paris at the start of the decade.

Macdonald realized that Massenet's is the gentlest of the musical *Cinderellas*. Massenet was two-thirds through his career when he wrote it, and bewitching the ear came easily to him.

Seamus McGreener at Wexford fails to realize any of this. His production is caribound, indecisive and at times inexperienced. The question of dream or reality is carefully left open by Massenet and his librettist Cain: does Cendrillon see a vision of her Prince, as she mopes like a lonely cricket by her hearth, and does he see a mirage of her as he is bored at the ball? Only at the very end does Cinders exclaim "Mon rêve était donc vrai!" and we are whisked off into a Tchaikovsky wonderland of glittering princes and princesses.

Music is poorly realized in Tim Reed's drab sets, especially that for the enchanted forest in Act III, the strongest section of the score where Cinders and the Prince join in a lyrical duet of infatuation across a hedge of flowers. Or should do. McGreener misses out on the balletic sections of the story, which were Macdonald's strength.

Musically things were a little better. Claire Primrose, despite a certain hardness in her soprano, showed a deal of charm and promise in the title role. Silvana Manna glittered as the young Fairy Godmother. Robynne Redmon seemed an odd choice for Prince Charming — *pas du tout charman* — but rather plumply petulant and consistently employing too much volume in this small house. She made a good case for using a tenor in the part as CBS did on record. Pierre-Yves Le Maigat did not make much of the put-upon father.

Stephane Cardon got much more Massenet feel from the RTE Symphony than he did from some his singers. The chorus was weak and clumsily handled. *Cendrillon* does not look like being the hit of the festival, but Bellini's *La straniera* and Giordano's *La cenerentola* are to come.

John Higgins

## A solo look at Napoleon

Jeremy Kingston  
meets comedian  
John Sessions,  
whose one-man  
show has moved  
to the West End



The man himself but John Sessions on stage becomes Frank Bruno, Peggy Mount and the Tsar of Russia

London newspaper), but the choice is seldom based on mere word-play. It is even possible, just, to make a connection between Captain Casabianca's doomed vessel (site of the burning deck) and Rick's Cafe Americain, though no performer on this earth could have resisted so clear a cue to bring on Bogart.

"Something I want them to say feels it has to be said by Wogan or Woody or who, so they say it. I do Lofty as Napoleon's brother Joseph — or is it Joseph as Lofty? — because Joseph is a nice, well-meaning bloke who just lets himself be shoved around."

"As Ken says (Kenneth Branagh, director of the show) it's a great yarn — once upon a time there was a little boy who grew up and... and... but nobody would want to come to a lecture."

"Ken and I used to talk about: could it be turning too funny? Could it be turning too serious? What we eventually decided on was this oscillation between the two."

This concern to put together a structure below the larking about is the quality that gives his show its toughness and vigour.

Sessions' compulsion to lark

showed itself in the familiar context of school (in Bedford). "The old story," he explains. "To avoid getting your head haemorrhaged you imitate teachers and make the boys laugh."

At Bangor University he wrote and performed in sketches. In Canada (to get a Ph.D.) and back in England at RADA the sketches became more elaborate. "Effects of lighting. Sets. In *Napoleon* we have all these famous paintings flashing up at the back. Not just the portraits of him, all the surrounding period,

the *Raff* of the *Medusa*, to make a point, I hope, not just because the raft was there at the time.

"There's the raft at Tilist where Napoleon met the Tsar and they both, well, fell in love with each other. I'd say. Very buddy-buddy. So then I go to Huck Finn, buddy-buddy on the Mississippi."

And who could follow Napoleon, touching so many other lives, with Queen Victoria presumably out of the running?

"Yes. I keep thinking of Nijinsky."

All that pre-First World War lot. One serious difficulty is, I can't dance a step."

The photographer arrives and leads us to the open space of Wandsworth Park, more open than before with fallen hollies cluttering the paths. "They say Nijinsky could jump and remain suspended in the air," Sessions remembers.

His expression becomes intent, considering possibilities, the sort of rapt attention Napoleon might have worn on the eve of battle. "I wouldn't mind having a go at that."

## A few Shanghai surprises

## THEATRE

The Woman  
Warrior  
Palladium

Arriving in London at the end of a whirlwind British tour, the Shanghai Kunju Theatre troupe duplicate the impact the Peking Opera made 10 years ago. They leave you gazing in disbelief at physical skills altogether beyond the range of European performers.

The programme (incidentally, an excellent introduction to Chinese theatre, with illustrated essays on colour sym-

bolism, hand movements, and character types) draws an emphatic contrast between Shanghai and Peking — much in the Kunju's favour, as the older and richer form.

However, the difference is not apparent to the uninitiated spectator, witnessing these scenes of acrobatic combat, trickery, and comic romance.

It is encouraging to learn that China's own popular audiences much preferred spectacular extracts to the vast original epics. What we are seeing, in other words, is not just a tourist show.

The opening Palladium programme consists of three excerpts and one self-contained

piece — a delicate little comedy about a runaway girl crossing a river to meet her lover.

We never see the lover: the whole piece consists of her ordeals with a mischievous old boatman who gets her on board and then decides to go off for lunch.

The stage is bare, and the magic of Liao Gu Yin and Liu Yilong's playing lies in their pantomime evocation of the boat, wildly rocking, drifting away out of control, and then taking to the waters, at which point the comedy dissolves into lyric melancholy.

Elsewhere, we are in the company of two invincible women warriors (Wang Zhi-

quan, first getting the better of a crafty imposter, and then raiding the municipal treasury for ill-gotten wealth), and that arch-trickster, the Monkey King — who acquires a magic fan from his reluctant owner by transforming himself into an insect and getting her to swallow him.

Chen Tongsheng's somewhat over her head, representing this feat, is the masterstroke of a performance that brings your eyes out on stalks. Elsewhere the stage surges with bodies turned into cathe-  
drine wheels, merging into biomorphic, and crossing the stage in hitherto undreamt-of contortions.

Irving Wardle

## Studies from a musical mirror

## CONCERTS

Maurizio Pollini  
Festival Hall

An audience of pianists and paper pianists: it had to be Maurizio Pollini. The fact that one is so aware of an audience, of a sense of occasion, is due, of course, not only to the reputation which precedes Pollini, but to the very nature of his performance; and last night's recital was no exception.

The first half of the evening, devoted entirely to Chopin, contained few exits and entrances: Pollini seemed bent on sweeping his audience into the wave of energy which lifted him through to the final *Chopin* minor Scherzo.

The sense of compression and of impetus, even within the wonderfully accidental, unconscious quality of his two Op 62 Nocturnes, demanded that the listener be as much on his mettle as the performer. Pollini's playing creates fast bonding: the last transformations of his *Paganini* *Fantasia* and the *bel canto* modulation of timbre and volume of his *F sharp major* Barcarolle insisted on

concentration as intense as their performance.

Neither in Chopin nor in Debussy is Pollini content to draw the listener's ear first to the piano itself. There were times in the *Debussy Etudes* when, paradoxically, the medium seemed incidental, as absorbed was Pollini in grappling with their structural and harmonic complexity. The result, of course, is to deflect attention back to the keyboard again; and in Pollini's hands it acted as a mirror for the brilliant and fugitive inventions of his imagination.

"Pour les quatuor" became a study in shifting velocity; "Pour les sixtes" a harmonic Rubik cube; while the studies of repeated notes and opposing sonorities created a kinetic art, translating from mind to ear through the almost involuntary involvement of the fingers.

Hilary Finch

● Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest* opens at the Whitehall Theatre on November 4 (previews from tonight) with Dame Hilda Brackett and Dr Evadne Hinge playing Lady Bracknell and Miss Prism respectively. The play is directed and adapted by Lou Stein.

A Collier's Friday  
Night  
Greenwich

In giving his first play a title so boldly down to earth, not to say into the earth, D.H. Lawrence must have been cooking snooks at the theatrical successes of his time: the nicely spoken, grammatical pieces with fancy titles taken from poems.

Kenzie Miller's set pleasingly reproduces a cluster of books and cooking tools, though the wide-open Green-

wich stage could scarcely be less suitable for a play steeped in naturalistic detail and set in a small colliery house.

Son and daughter (a sparkling Claire Parker) return home from their school and college, the mother (Annette Crossley) bakes bread, the father (Alfred Lynch) arrives grumpy from the pit to confine his feeble war against his family's contempt. Food is eaten, bread burned, wages are shared out, and in the closing scene the son assures his mother that she still has — perhaps will always have — the best part of his love.

Peter Gill's famous production of 1968 emphasized stifling mother-love and father-hatred, elements that are less to the fore in the attractive production John Dove gives us where the prevailing mood is struck by the trio of young girls, laughing and teasing the unfortunate Maggie (Claire Hackett) who is sweet on the son (Neil Dudgeon).

The production finds a lot of cheering comedy in these areas, although the cost is a risky looseness in the playing of the family drama.

Jeremy Kingston

Donald Cooper



Balcony scene: Lovers Sarah-Jane Fenton and Richard Huw peer from the steel tube set

## Romeo from the disco

Romeo and Juliet  
Young Vic

The tragedy of *Romeo and Juliet* is caused by external factors — family feud, postal delay and excruciatingly bad timing. It is essential therefore that the external dimension of the drama — the world of Verona — is credible and compelling. David Thacker's

production bundles the play unceremoniously into a late twentieth-century world of designer double-breasted suits, deep coloured drapery and disco music.

Richard Graham's *Benvolio* is not the usual wet liberal but a youthful version of Bob Hoskins with a morose chuckle and a nasty way of eating spaghetti.

How can love thrive in this alienating context? At the Capulet boy Sarah-Jane Fenton's physically expressive but jittery Juliet looks to have it made with Anthony Wellington's balletic Tybalt. Why she should even notice Richard Huw's earnest, dog-like Romeo is something of a mystery.

Most of the play's climactic moments, the balcony scene,

the death of Mercutio (a disappointingly stiff John Elmes), the morning after, fall disconcertingly flat. In the last, Romeo seems to be suffering from sullen post-copulistic tristesse. This may be because the lovers are perched half way up Fran Thompson's steel fire-escape-cum-climbing-frame set.

The rewards of this production are peripheral — a magnificent Capulet from Peter Theodora, both genuinely indulgent and frighteningly sadistic; and an excellent, if zany, Friar Laurence, played by Rudolph Walker as a Southern Baptist Minister with a heart of gold and a voice of molasses.

Harry Eyres

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## Most of the news that's fit to print

Some newspaper editors have the ear of their heads of government, most have to content themselves with the mouth. I doubt, however, that even in this country any get, let alone give, instructions often enough to merit a telephone with Mrs Thatcher's name on it. In *Parade* (ITV), Granada's documentary about the Soviet Union's daily echo of party policy, the Editor-in-Chief, Viktor Afanasyev, proudly showed us his labelled hot-line to Gorbachev.

We have been given a lot of what has been aptly termed "Glasnostalgia" to mark the

## TELEVISION

70th anniversary of the Russian revolution. What is encouraging about such programmes as *Parade* is that the Soviets have enough confidence in *Perestroika* to show cancer as well as healthy tissue in the body politic.

As in the West, there was much posed indifference to the pandering fly-on-the-wall camera; but it became a fly in the ointment on trying to enter the office of the censor uninvited.

Television may not always love a new face but it does a fresh one. The main preoccupation of David Drew on the couple of brief occasions I have met him seemed to be his ageing legs and his lumbering detour as an amateur centre-half.

I could never remember exactly what he did off the field but up he popped last night with sprightly enough tread in *Footsteps* (BBC2) following the path of the pioneering explorer of Mayan Cities, Alfred Maudslayi. Fresher than his legs was his youthful countenance, which made him a natural for the Dorset Gray school of documentary (pioneered by David Attenborough and Julian Pettifer).

Wisely perhaps, he underplayed cameras — no salivating enthusiasm or wild hand signals, altogether a performance up front more reminiscent of "Kaiser" Franz Beckenbauer at the back rather than "Crazy Horse" Emlyn Hughes whose legs may have long gone but, alas, not his hands or tongue.

Andrew Hislop

**TONIGHT 7.30**  
New production of Massenet's romantic tragedy  
*Werther*  
"This Werther is a triumph for Massenet and a triumph for the ENO. It must be seen without delay!"  
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Cast includes:  
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## THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Saturday section by a preview of the week ahead. Items for inclusion should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E19 9XN

**BOOKING KEY**  
★ Seats available  
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THEATRE  
LONDON

★ **ATONEMENT:** Tom Barry Collins plays the eternal triangle at the Yorkshire seaside.  
Lyric Theatre, King Street, W6 (01-741 2311), Tue.  
Hammersmith, Mon-Sat 8.15-10pm, 25.

★ **BEYOND REASONABLE DOUBT:**  
Frank Finlay, Wendy Craig and others in Jeffrey Archer courtroom drama.  
Queen's Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue W1 (01-734 1165), Tue.  
Pleasance Theatre, Mon-Fri 8.10-10.15pm, Sat 8.30-10.45pm, mats 2.30-5.15pm and Sat 5.7-7.15pm, 25-21.50.

★ **DEATHWATCH/THE MAIDS:**  
Grisette-style all exploring murderous longings; performed with same three actors in each.  
Pit Theatre, Barbican EC1 (01-426 8785 & 01-426 8881), Tue.  
Pleasance Theatre, Mon-Fri 8.10-10.15pm, Sat 8.30-10.45pm, mats 2.30-5.15pm and Sat 5.7-7.15pm, 25-21.50.

★ **FOLLIES:** Sondheim's musical, in London at last, has Diana Rigg, Julie McKenzie leading a stellar cast.  
Shaftesbury Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue W1 (01-734 1165), Tue.  
Hammersmith, Mon-Sat 8.15-10pm, mats 2.30-5.15pm and Sat 5.7-7.15pm, 25-21.50.

★ **THE HYPOCHONDRIST:** Tom Courtenay heads Molière's classic comedy, directed by Nancy Medd.  
Lyric Theatre, King Street W6 (01-741 2311), Tue.  
Hammersmith, Mon-Sat 8.15-10pm, mats 2.30-5.15pm and Sat 5.7-7.15pm, 25-21.50.

★ **THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST:** Dame Hilda Brackley bestows upon us her Lady Bracknell and Dr Elvira Hinge offers her Miss Prism in a cunning adaptation of Mr Wilde's original.  
Whitehall Theatre, Whitehall SW1 (01-530 7765), Tue.  
Hammersmith, Mon-Sat 8.15-10pm, mats 2.30-5.15pm and Sat 5.7-7.15pm, 25-21.50.

★ **IT'S A GIRL:** Sue Theatre reopens after its fire with John Burrows's exhilarating all-women musical about pregnancy and child murder.  
Shaggy Bush Green, W12 (01-743 3358), Tue.  
Hammersmith, Mon-Sat 8.15-10pm, mats 2.30-5.15pm and Sat 5.7-7.15pm, 25-21.50.

★ **LETITIA AND LOVAGE:** Maggie Smith and Margaret Tyacke as two formidable ladies in a new Peter Shaffer comedy, directed by Michael Eckstrom.  
Globe Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue W1 (01-473 3657), Tue.  
Pleasance Theatre, Mon-Fri 8.10-10.15pm, Sat 8.30-10.45pm, mats 2.30-5.15pm and Sat 5.7-7.15pm, 25-21.50.

★ **A LIE OF THE WIND:** Fine acting team in new Sam Shepard play exploring family tensions in the Mid West.  
Royal Court Theatre, Sloane Square SW1 (01-930 1746), Tue.  
Hammersmith, Mon-Sat 8.15-10pm, mats 2.30-5.15pm and Sat 5.7-7.15pm, 25-21.50.

★ **THE WITCHES OF EASTWICK:** John Nicholson's satirical comedy dominates this bumpy adaptation of John Updike's clever novel about the battle of the sexes.  
Royal Court Theatre, Sloane Square SW1 (01-930 1746), Tue.  
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★ **THE LIFE OF NAPOLEON:** John Sessions's dazzling one-man show, with the seductive voices of Oliver, Orson Welles, Frank Bruno and about 30 others. Transfer after sell-out run at Riverside.  
Albany Theatre, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (01-326 3878), Tue.  
Leicester Square, Preview tonight, 8.10-10.30pm. First night tomorrow, 7.30-10.30pm. Then Mon-Fri, 8.10-10.30pm, Sat 8.30-11pm, mats Sat 5.7-7.30pm, 25-21.50.

★ **THE SMALL POPPIES:** Three Australian children set off for their first day at school. New children's play by David Holman, author of the marvelous *No Worries* last year.  
Young Vic Theatre, 65 The Cut, SE1 (01-828 8353), Tue.  
Today, tomorrow, Fri and Sat at 2pm and 7pm. From Nov 3, Tues-Sat, 10.30am, and Mon, Tues and Sat, 2pm. Adults 22.50, children 11.25.

★ **THE VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE:** Michael Gambon magnificent in transfer of Alan Ayckbourn's NT production.  
Albany Theatre, Albany, WC2 (01-326 3878), Tue.  
Leicester Square, Preview tonight, 8.10-10.30pm. First night tomorrow, 7.30-10.30pm. Then Mon-Fri, 8.10-10.30pm, Sat 8.30-11pm, mats Sat 5.7-7.30pm, 25-21.50.

★ **LONG RUNNERS:** ★ *The Business of Murder*: Mayfair Theatre (01-628 3036). ★ *Cats*: New London Theatre (01-405 0072, cc 01-404 4071). ★ *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*: Ambassadors Theatre (01-836 6111, cc 01-836 1171). ★ *Me and My Girl*: Adelphi Theatre (01-240 7913/4). ★ *Les Misérables*: Palace Theatre (01-434 0809). ★ *The Mousetrap*: St Martin's Theatre (01-836 1463). ★ *Phantom of the Opera*: Her Majesty's Theatre (01-839 2244). ★ *Run For Your Wife*: Criterion Theatre (01-830 115). ★ *Sleight of Mind*: Apollo Victoria Theatre (01-828 8665).

★ **OUT OF TOWN**  
PLYMOUTH: ★ *South Pacific*: Grange Theatre, South Reading, Enfield, Middlesex, Andrew C. Wadsworth, in the Rogers and Hammerstein musical. Comes to London in January.  
Theatre Royal, Royal Parade (0752 665955), Royal, 7.30pm; mats Thurs, 2.30pm, Sat, 4pm, 25-21.50.

★ **RED HILLS:** ★ *Macbeth*: Theatre Royal, Royal Parade (0752 665955), Royal, 7.30pm; mats Thurs, 2.30pm, Sat, 4pm, 25-21.50.

★ **WATFORD:** ★ *Don't Bother Me*: The Ipsen play, with Susan Penhaligon, Charlotte Cornwall, Mike Gwilt, directed by Lou Stein.  
Palace Theatre, Canon Road (0223 22671), 7.45pm, 22.25-27.25.

★ **Also on national release**  
★ *Advance booking possible*

★ **ANGEL HEART** (18): Mickey Rourke's down-at-the-heels detective pursues a missing person to the underworld of New Orleans. Pulp stuff, directed by Alan Parker in slam-bang style (115 min).  
Leicester Square Theatre (01-830 2252), Progs 1.45, 5.00, 8.20.

★ **THE UNTOUCHABLES** (18): Eliot Ness's gangster story. Capone in Brian De Palma's entertaining drama, filled with bullets, blood, and thought-provoking dialogue by playwright Mamet. With Kevin Costner, Sean Connery, Robert De Niro (120 min).  
Canon Picture House (01-229 4149), Progs 2.30, 5.15, 8.00, 11.15. Canon Picture House (01-728 5001), Progs 2.30, 5.15, 8.25, 11.15. Canon Picture House (01-370 2639), Progs 2.15, 5.10, 8.15, 11.15. Canon Picture House (01-229 4149), Progs 2.30, 5.15, 8.00, 11.15.

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★ **LA BAMBA** (18): Conventional biography of the Mexican-American actor, with the seductive voices of Oliver, Orson Welles, Frank Bruno and about 30 others. Transfer after sell-out run at Riverside.  
Albany Theatre, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (01-326 3878), Tue.  
Leicester Square, Preview tonight, 8.10-10.30pm. First night tomorrow, 7.30-10.30pm. Then Mon-Fri, 8.10-10.30pm, Sat 8.30-11pm, mats Sat 5.7-7.30pm, 25-21.50.

★ **BEYOND REASONABLE DOUBT:** Frank Finlay, Wendy Craig and others in Jeffrey Archer courtroom drama.  
Queen's Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue W1 (01-734 1165), Tue.  
Pleasance Theatre, Mon-Fri 8.10-10.15pm, Sat 8.30-10.45pm, mats 2.30-5.15pm and Sat 5.7-7.15pm, 25-21.50.

★ **THE LIFE OF NAPOLEON:** John Sessions's dazzling one-man show, with the seductive voices of Oliver, Orson Welles, Frank Bruno and about 30 others. Transfer after sell-out run at Riverside.  
Albany Theatre, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (01-326 3878), Tue.  
Leicester Square, Preview tonight, 8.10-10.30pm. First night tomorrow, 7.30-10.30pm. Then Mon-Fri, 8.10-10.30pm, Sat 8.30-11pm, mats Sat 5.7-7.30pm, 25-21.50.

★ **THE SMALL POPPIES:** Three Australian children set off for their first day at school. New children's play by David Holman, author of the marvelous *No Worries* last year.  
Young Vic Theatre, 65 The Cut, SE1 (01-828 8353), Tue.  
Today, tomorrow, Fri and Sat at 2pm and 7pm. From Nov 3, Tues-Sat, 10.30am, and Mon, Tues and Sat, 2pm. Adults 22.50, children 11.25.

★ **THE VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE:** Michael Gambon magnificent in transfer of Alan Ayckbourn's NT production.  
Albany Theatre, Albany, WC2 (01-326 3878), Tue.  
Leicester Square, Preview tonight, 8.10-10.30pm. First night tomorrow, 7.30-10.30pm. Then Mon-Fri, 8.10-10.30pm, Sat 8.30-11pm, mats Sat 5.7-7.30pm, 25-21.50.

★ **LONG RUNNERS:** ★ *The Business of Murder*: Mayfair Theatre (01-628 3036). ★ *Cats*: New London Theatre (01-405 0072, cc 01-404 4071). ★ *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*: Ambassadors Theatre (01-836 6111, cc 01-836 1171). ★ *Me and My Girl*: Adelphi Theatre (01-240 7913/4). ★ *Les Misérables*: Palace Theatre (01-434 0809). ★ *The Mousetrap*: St Martin's Theatre (01-836 1463). ★ *Phantom of the Opera*: Her Majesty's Theatre (01-839 2244). ★ *Run For Your Wife*: Criterion Theatre (01-830 115). ★ *Sleight of Mind*: Apollo Victoria Theatre (01-828 8665).

★ **OUT OF TOWN**  
PLYMOUTH: ★ *South Pacific*: Grange Theatre, South Reading, Enfield, Middlesex, Andrew C. Wadsworth, in the Rogers and Hammerstein musical. Comes to London in January.  
Theatre Royal, Royal Parade (0752 665955), Royal, 7.30pm; mats Thurs, 2.30pm, Sat, 4pm, 25-21.50.

★ **RED HILLS:** ★ *Macbeth*: Theatre Royal, Royal Parade (0752 665955), Royal, 7.30pm; mats Thurs, 2.30pm, Sat, 4pm, 25-21.50.

★ **WATFORD:** ★ *Don't Bother Me*: The Ipsen play, with Susan Penhaligon, Charlotte Cornwall, Mike Gwilt, directed by Lou Stein.  
Palace Theatre, Canon Road (0223 22671), 7.45pm, 22.25-27.25.



**BBC1**

6.00 **Ceejazz AM**. 6.35 **Edgar Kennedy** in 'I'll Fix It' (b/w). 6.55 **Weather**. 7.00 **Breakfast Time** with Frank Bough, Sally Magnusson and Jeremy Paxman. Includes national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news and travel reports at 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; weather at 7.25, 7.55 and 8.25. 8.40 **Open Air**. Eamonn Holmes invites viewers to ring in with their comments on yesterday's television programmes. To participate ring 081-614 0424. 8.55 **Regional news and weather**. 9.00 **News** and weather followed by **Neighbours** (r). 9.20 **Kilroy**. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject. 10.00 **News** and weather followed by **Going for Gold**. Quiz programme presented by Henry Kelly (r). 10.25 **Children's hour**. Andy Crane with programme news and birthday greetings followed by **Play School** (r). 10.55 **Five to Eleven**. Rosalie Crutchley with a thought for the day. 11.00 **News** and weather followed by **Open Air**. What do Asian viewers think of television programmes aimed at them? 12.00 **News** and weather followed by **Daytime Live**. Pamela Armstrong, Alan Titchmarsh and Ross Davidson are joined by Jane Asher and, with a song, Barbara Dickson. 12.45 **Regional news and weather**. 1.00 **One to One**. Interview with Michael Buerk. Weather. 1.30 **Neighbours**. Des's courtship technique is a lot to be desired. 1.50 **Going for Gold**. European outdoor knowledge quiz. 2.15 **Film: Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory** (1971) starring Gene Wilder. Road Dahl's tale of a young man whose dream of owning a chocolate factory comes true. Directed by Mel Stuart. 2.45 **News**. 3.00 **Regional news and weather**. 3.15 **Film: The Great St Trinian's Train Robbery** (1966, b/w) starring Frankie Howerd, Dora Bryan and George Cole. Unbeknown to the authorities St Trinian's new premises is the hiding place of the great train robbers too. Directed by Frank Launder and Sidney Gilliat. 3.40 **Cartoon Two**. The Here and the There. 3.50 **The Victorian Kitchen Garden**. Part seven of the 13-programme series following the rebuilding of a walled garden. (Ceejazz) 4.10 **Antiques** presented by Lewis Wolpert. Professor Marvin Minsky explains how the structure of our minds will be one day replicated; and news of drug companies about to market synthetic human growth hormones. 4.30 **The Shiraz**. The second and final part of the adaptation of D'Arcy Niland's Australian novel about a foodcrazed father travelling from town to town looking for work, accompanied by his young daughter. Starring Bryan Brown. 4.55 **Newsnight** 11.30 **Weather**.

**BBC2**

9.00 **Ceejazz 9.45 Daytime on Two**. Leisure time in Spain 10.00 **For the very young** 10.15 **Fabrics** 10.25 **Different kinds of bread** 10.40 **Words and pictures** 11.10 **Maths investigations** 11.40 **A such scene** 12.00 **Working with the elderly** and handicapped 12.20 **The reality of bad sex life** 12.50 **Making home videos** 1.20 **For the very young** 1.30 **Episode two of a video drama** 2.00 **News** and weather followed by **Storytime**. Reading from Asch introduced by Julian Wilson. The 2.35, 3.10 and 3.40 reads. Includes news and weather at 3.00 and 4.00. 4.05 **Zoo week**. The second of this week's life visits to the London Zoo. 4.35 **Wildlife on Two**. Zen, the Pigeon Monkey. The first of three programmes about an intelligent macaque monkey (r). 5.00 **Glenn Chase's New Zealand**. Programme two of the four-part series on how life has changed in New Zealand over the past two decades. 5.30 **Advice Shop**. Advice on life after work from retired couples.

**BBC1** **Wales** 6.35pm-6.50pm **Wales Today**. 6.55-7.00 **Star-Spangled Rag** 12.40-12.45 **News** and weather. 12.50-1.00 **Star-Spangled Rag**. 1.00-1.10 **Dotman** 6.35pm-7.00pm **Reporting Scotland**. 7.00-7.10 **Wales Today**. 7.10-7.20 **Star-Spangled Rag**. 7.20-7.30 **Wales Today**. 7.30-7.40 **Star-Spangled Rag**. 7.40-7.50 **Wales Today**. 7.50-8.00 **Star-Spangled Rag**. 8.00-8.10 **Wales Today**. 8.10-8.20 **Star-Spangled Rag**. 8.20-8.30 **Wales Today**. 8.30-8.40 **Star-Spangled Rag**. 8.40-8.50 **Wales Today**. 8.50-9.00 **Star-Spangled Rag**. 9.00-9.10 **Wales Today**. 9.10-9.20 **Star-Spangled Rag**. 9.20-9.30 **Wales Today**. 9.30-9.40 **Star-Spangled Rag**. 9.40-9.50 **Wales Today**. 9.50-10.00 **Star-Spangled Rag**. 10.00-10.10 **Wales Today**. 10.10-10.20 **Star-Spangled Rag**. 10.20-10.30 **Wales Today**. 10.30-10.40 **Star-Spangled Rag**. 10.40-10.50 **Wales Today**. 10.50-11.00 **Star-Spangled Rag**. 11.00-11.10 **Wales Today**. 11.10-11.20 **Star-Spangled 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# CBI survey highlights optimism in industry

By Edward Townsend  
Industrial Correspondent

The Confederation of British Industry yesterday demonstrated that manufacturing industry was in many respects in its best state for a decade, and said that the stock market crash would have little impact on the nation's economic growth.

Publishing one of its most buoyant industrial trends surveys, the employers' organization said it was providing further evidence of strength and growth in the British economy.

The survey - coming just seven days before CBI members gather in Glasgow for their annual conference - paints a picture of continuously rising business optimism, vigorous growth in demand at home, higher output, and the first signs of a halt in the downward spiral of manufacturing employment.

CBI leaders yesterday reiterated their view that the "hysteria" of the stock markets was unjustified and did not in any way reflect the



Wigglesworth: confident strength of the British economy.

Mr David Wigglesworth, the chairman of the CBI economic situation committee, said yesterday that the survey showed strong demand, that manufacturers expected to go on increasing their output over the next four months and to employ more people.

The survey of 1,358 companies - which account for half of manufacturing employment and exports - was completed before the world stock market crash, but the committee discussed its findings last Friday and decided that the fall in the Stock Exchange did not greatly affect the mood of optimism. The survey showed that business confidence at the time it was taken was high, with 31 per cent of companies saying they were more optimistic than four months before.

Mr Wigglesworth said of the crash: "There is likely to be some impact on British exports to the United States as well as on home demand from people feeling poorer and less confident. But this should not be exaggerated, and the under-

lying health of the economy remains good."

Manufacturing order books are now regarded as above normal by more firms than at any time since 1977, although capital goods producers still report their order books to be below normal.

Nearly all firms are expected to benefit from the rise in output, says the CBI, but there are no signs of overheating in the economy and lack of capacity is not a major constraint. The proportion of companies working below capacity has fallen to 41 per cent.

In the last quarter there has been no fall in employment in manufacturing, more than a fifth of firms, mostly small enterprises, said they expected to employ more people in the coming four months, and 60 per cent said that they would be maintaining existing levels.

Mr Wigglesworth added: "Except for lower share values, the economy is in much the same shape as it was two weeks ago."

## Kennedy in £64m hotel deal

By Michael Tate

London's five-star London-derry Hotel and the luxury Howard Hotel in Manhattan have changed hands in a deal worth £64 million.

The buyer is Kennedy Brooks, the hotels and catering group, which is acquiring them from the Barclays Hotels Group in return for an 11.5 per cent stake in Kennedy and £45 million in cash.

The Kennedy shares have been valued at 390p, a premium of 14 per cent to Monday's closing stock market price.

Both hotels are prime properties in fashionable areas. The 150-bedroom London-derry, on Park Lane, is held on a long lease and has planning permission for £3.5 million of bedroom extensions. The 107-bedroom Howard, located between East 53rd Street and Park Avenue, is freehold.

Mr Michael Golder, the Kennedy chairman, says that the deal "strengthens and further focuses Kennedy Brooks' existing hotel operations".

On completion of the deal, about 80 per cent of Kennedy's assets will be invested in the hotel industry. It will own 21 hotels, including the four-star Onslow in London's Queen's Gate. The two London hotels are expected to play an important role in the marketing of Kennedy's other hotels.

## Nedo warns on shares

By Derek Harris  
Industrial Editor

If the stock market falls below its present levels, fast-growing companies seeking to raise equity capital could encounter difficulties, the National Economic Development Office said yesterday.

But should interest rates then drop, established companies would be able to use such financing more readily, Mr Walter Ellis, Nedo's economics director, said.

A venture such as the Channel tunnel project, however, would be affected because of its reliance on equity capital, he added.

His comments coincided with Nedo's 1987 edition of its British Industrial Performance survey. Mr John Cassels, the Nedo director-general, said the survey showed the underlying performance in Britain's competitiveness was more encouraging than for some time.

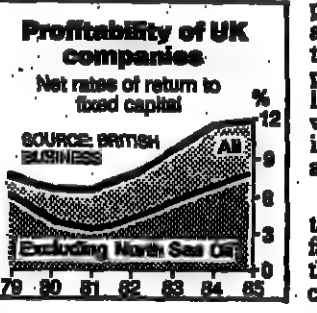
Improvements in labour productivity had been favourable by international standards, inflation was under control and profitability was



John Cassels: 'encouraging' rising, making it possible for companies to invest more, Mr Cassels said.



Walter Ellis: 'well placed' industry is going to be especially important. But it was possible to prosper even in an unfriendly environment, he said.



## Celltech planning £50 million placing

By Alexandra Jackson

Celltech, a leading European biotechnology group, is planning to raise approximately £50 million through an international private placing later this year by Baring Brothers, the merchant bank.

Mr Gerard Fairclough, the chief executive of Celltech, said: "Despite recent happenings on world stock markets, we are confident of our ability to proceed with the placing."

The fundamentals for the business remain intact."

Celltech has a well established business involved, among other activities, in the production of monoclonal antibodies for its own and third party use. These are increasingly deployed in the pharmaceutical industry.

The money raised in the placing will be used to fund the group's expansion into the bio-pharmaceuticals market.

Celltech aims to develop and market drugs itself rather than licence them to large pharmaceutical companies.

Celltech has six products in its portfolio which are in the course of development. The two most advanced of these aim to treat stroke and brain haemorrhage. Celltech's technological experience is expected to enable it to launch a drug for two-thirds of the industry's normal average of \$100 million (£59.31 million).

Celltech announced yesterday that it has been awarded a contract worth several million pounds from Ortho Pharmaceuticals, a subsidiary of Johnson & Johnson, to produce EPO, a hormone used in the treatment of kidney disease.

Celltech is currently owned by several institutional and corporate shareholders and since its establishment in 1980 has raised £27 million. In due course it will seek a full listing.

## NFC to decide on going public

By Alison Eadie

The board of the National Freight Consortium will decide on Friday, against a backdrop of falling stock markets, whether to recommend a public flotation to its employee share owners.

The top 100 managers of the NFC, responsible for the buy-out from the Government in February 1982, will meet on Friday morning to discuss the issues. The board will then reach a decision that afternoon and put its recommendation to shareholders at the annual meeting in February.

NFC shares are valued quarterly and can only be traded on four dealing days a year. The shares are now worth 135p each, compared with an equivalent starting price, after a scrip issue and share splits, of 2.5p.

The main reason for going public would be to ensure marketability of the shares. The present matched bargain basis of trading experiences a turnover of about 6 per cent of the company's equity a year.

The fall-out in the stock market could mean that the next valuation of shares - due next month - will show a levelling off, or even falling, in price for the first time. The state of the stock market is one of the factors considered by the independent valuers in assessing the worth of NFC shares.

The company is valued at £418 million but is expected to be worth considerably more if floated. Sir Peter Thompson, chairman, accepts the inevitability of going public, but the method and timing of flotation are open to debate.

See privatization, page 30

## Molins chief leaves after board decision

A boardroom split at Molins, the manufacturer of machinery for the tobacco industry, has resulted in the resignation of Mr Christopher Ross, managing director by the unanimous decision of the rest of the board of the company.

Dr Tess Frankel, the chairman of the company, is taking over Mr Ross's duties until a new managing director is appointed to the position. Dr Frankel said Mr Ross's departure was the result of basic incompatibility in management style and temperament. There was no difference of opinion over the company's strategy.

## COMMENT Kenneth Fleet

# A blow to London's world market status

If the Chancellor, or the Prime Minister, had decided that it was right to shelve the £7.2 billion BP share sale, he should have said so in the Commons yesterday. If he has decided that the sale will go ahead, he should have said so in the Commons yesterday. He may want, as the party pundits suggest, merely to allow time for the ritual procedures of consultation between the bankers, brokers and underwriters, the Treasury and the Bank of England to be gone through at length. He will then announce the decision which he made at the beginning: the sale will go on, as he implied it would in his statement in the Commons yesterday.

Not everyone reads events of the last two days in the same light. Less flatteringly, the Chancellor is seen to have dithered; and to be looking for some small miracle in the London, Wall Street and Tokyo markets that would help him resolve a serious dilemma. Furthermore, if Mr Lawson sticks to his thin red line and the offer is not withdrawn, Mrs Thatcher will have missed a great opportunity of showing the kind of international leadership which she insists is again part of Britain's prerogative.

At a time of grave weakness in the financial markets, the Japanese have done their judicious best to organize support in the Tokyo market, the West Germans have relied on their strict approach to interest rates, and the Americans have pumped money into the system to stave off bankruptcies.

While it is true that we have brought down bank base rates by half a percentage point, the Government's response to the collapse in share prices has been belligerent - "I am not going to be dictated to by markets" (Mr Lawson); chauvinistic - blaming James Baker, the US Treasury Secretary, for actually starting the collapse and attacking the Bundesbank for not cutting interest rates (Mr Lawson again); and lacking, so far, the one major gesture - pulling the BP issue - that would be seen in every leading financial centre as positive and statesmanlike.

Postponing the sale would not be difficult, requiring only a simple acknowledgment of the dangers inherent in crashing markets and the common sense of not putting additional liquidity strains on a system already under potentially damaging pressure. Withdrawal would save a great British company from the stigma of a failed issue and the depressing weight of unwanted stock on the BP share price. It would relieve 100,000 or more small shareholders, and perhaps 10,000 BP employees who have already put in their applications for shares, from the depressing sight of an instant capital loss. And far from jeopardising the privatization programme, it would have

helped to guarantee support for it in the future.

Moreover, the underwriters undoubtedly have a strong legal case for withdrawal based on the clause in the underwriting agreement which refers to "a proper underwriting risk" when "financial, political, industrial or economic conditions" have changed materially.

There is a determination to ignore consequences of this kind, seemingly in favour of a macho political display by the Chancellor and the sheer delight among some Tory backbenchers of rubbing the noses of underwriters and "the City" in very expensive dirt.

The Government, of course, is committed to income tax reductions and, understandably, does not want to forgo the revenue from the BP sale. But if it looks a little further ahead, it may regret the damage the issue is likely to do to London as an international financial centre. Some 40 per cent of the BP shares has been underwritten overseas, mainly in the US and Japan. They may, or they may not, take their impending losses like men but two things are certain: they will not take kindly to the general joy with which their bad luck is greeted here; nor will they be impressed by the machinery of consultation by which decisions in the BP case are taken and the narrow nationalistic attitude we are taking to the worst shakeout in stock markets since 1929.

When the talk turned yesterday to long-term worries about the privatization programme and, heaven forfend, doubts over the public sector borrowing requirement, things were going much too far. The PSBR is heading for a third successive large undershoot this year, with or without the £1.1 billion the Treasury expects to get from BP.

Slower growth in the economy may make a large public sector repayment somewhat less likely. But the £4 billion target/forecast, which the Chancellor will update in his autumn statement within the next fortnight, will be met with quite a bit to spare.

The loss of BP would leave a hole in the privatization programme this year. But with nearly £4 billion of the £5 billion target already in - £1.8 billion from British Gas, £1.1 billion from Rolls-Royce, £480 million from BAA and £430 million from British Airways - the Treasury has already done most of its work in this area.

Next year, nearly half of the £5 billion target is already firm - from the third British Gas payment and the second instalment of BAA. The Government can also, from April 1988, sell its remaining 49.8 per cent stake in British Telecom. Even after the shake-out, that stake was worth £6.5 billion yesterday, enough to tide the privatization programme over until water and electricity proceeds start to flow in.

## Eat, drink and why worry?

The depression which has been hanging over the stock market was temporarily forgotten last night as hundreds of brokers and merchant bankers stayed on after office hours to celebrate the first anniversary of Big Bang. Jollies by far was the "Big Bang Boogie" aboard a Thames paddle steamer, organized by stockbroker Wood Mackenzie for its staff of 160. "We wouldn't have considered cancelling it," says senior partner John Chinn. "It's always a good idea to let off steam, and that's just what we did. We got through last week in shipshape condition and so we've got every reason to celebrate." Meanwhile, some 450 other City slickers were sipping champagne and gin and tonic at a cocktail party at the Whitehead Brewery in Chiswell Street. It was hosted by Consultants Computer & Financial, supplier of back office and dealing room computers to most of London's major financial institutions. "No one decided not to come because of the stock market," says CCF chairman Tim Simon. "People are worried by its gyrations, but they are a lot more positive about it now."

Moore, please

Not many company chief executives would crack open a celebratory bottle of champagne within minutes of learning that their personal fortune had been diminished by £1.6 million. But Alan Moore, who owns 6 per cent of Burns

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### BP, in black and white

Queues have been forming, I hear, in the Grosvenor Street offices of City law firm Linklaters to see the underwriting agreement for the BP offer - a document on public display there. One article clerk found himself queuing for more than half an hour, along with City solicitors and merchant bankers, all apparently eager to read the "divine measure" clause which states that the offer for sale can be "terminated" in the event of a "material change in relevant circumstances." Linklaters, solicitors to BP, has, in accordance with Stock Exchange rules, been making this and other BP flotation documents available to any member of the public who requests to see them. "We don't keep records of who asks to see them and so we have no idea how many people have been in," says partner Les Berkowitz.

Anderson - soon to be switched from industrial to the financial sector - was consoled by the fact that the company had just banked £11 million in cash from the sale of its industrial interests. "I went off to France for a week's holiday, the weekend before the crash," says Moore - whose chairman is the ex-ICI chief, Sir John Harvey-Jones.

and telephoned the office on Tuesday, knowing nothing about what had happened. While it was quite a salutary experience to realize that my stake had fallen by more than a million, it also means that acquisitions will be easier and cheaper for us, with all that money in the bank."

Sugary talk

You certainly have to be thick-skinned to survive, unscathed, in the Square Mile these days. Amstrad's shares slumped 11p to 122p yesterday for no obvious reason. Was it, I asked, fears about the launch of its new £399 lap-top portable computer, scheduled for today? "No," replied one seasoned market-maker. "It's just that Sugar's appearing on Wogan." Alan Sugar, colourful chairman of the computer group, will indeed be appearing on the chat show this evening - a television must for all shareholders.

## On your superbike

City yuppies contemplating the sale of their Porsches, think, it seems, that a custom-made bicycle is a more street-credible alternative means of transport than a third-hand Reliant Robin. One City institution where the collapse in share prices is having a positive effect on its balance sheet is Concor Cycles, a purveyor of hand-built racing and touring bicycles to three generations of City slickers at - including Gerald Ronson and Mick Jagger. Monty Young, managing director of the Grays Inn-based firm, tells me: "Dozens of miserable-looking people from the City have been filing through my doors during the past few days saying they are having to give up their fancy cars and would like to replace them with a custom-built bicycle." They range from around £250 to £5,000, and optional extras include a solar-powered computer to measure distance, speed and the rider's pulse rate. One Japanese broker who ordered a £1,035 bike at the weekend spent a further £300 on clothing - a skin tight body suit, Biggles-style goggles and head band.

Institutional investors are suddenly appreciating the attractions of suggested investments. Directors of Celltech, a biotechnology group planning a private placing this year, were greeted enthusiastically on a recent marketing trip to potential investors in Europe. "If it's not good, you can't watch it go down," said one Parisian fund manager.

Carol Leonard

## THE SMART MONEY'S MOVING INTO GILTS

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INDEPENDENT ADVICE  
ON A CRUCIAL DECISION

Government initiative to help Britain's holiday industry

## Training in tourism needs 'new strategy'

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor



Norman Fowler: initiative

A new strategy for training in Britain's growing tourism industry is the aim of an initiative announced yesterday by Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Employment.

He is calling a meeting of key people from the industry to form a working group to establish a comprehensive and co-ordinated strategy for training.

Mr Fowler said his department had a major role to ensure the industry continued to grow and maximize its employment potential. The growth rate of jobs in recent years had been in the region of 50,000 a year, he pointed out. The industry now supports 1.4 million jobs and earns £15 billion a year.

Mr Fowler made the announcement at a conference on tourism training in London at which industry leaders suggested that training needs should be met for leisure and

the quality of training and especially to improve the co-ordination of it. There is now a realization by employers that not enough has been done on this.

The working party is expected to produce its first recommendations in time for a national conference early in the new year. The aim is to ensure implementation of the new strategy by the autumn of 1989.

Although there are about 15,000 YTS training places for the industry being provided at a cost of about £30 million, it may be that the tourism industry is receiving too low a share of Manpower Services Commission resources, Mr Lee said.

Nor will the industry necessarily be expected to expand its own spending on training substantially, given the extensive expenditure by some of the large companies in the sector.

## Dahlawi buys 5.9% stake in Tranwood

By Michael Tate

The powerful Al Dahlawi family of Saudi Arabia is the latest recruit to the share register at Tranwood, the young financial services and investment management group run by Mr Nick Oppenheim and Mr Peter Earl.

The Al Dahlawi Company has spent more than £2 million on a 5.9 per cent share stake in Tranwood, and Sheikh Amin Dahlawi, head of the family and chairman of the company, has joined the Tranwood board.

Commenting on the deal yesterday, Mr Peter Earl said it gave Tranwood a "direct link-up with a major financial trading and services company in the Middle East."

The bulk of Al Dahlawi's shares has been acquired from Mr Oppenheim and Mr Earl, who are left with holdings of 3.7 per cent and 7.1 per cent respectively. The holdings will rise to 4 per cent and 9 per cent on conversion of warrants next year. The purchase price was 42p.

## Engineers 'earn' £20,300 a year

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Chartered professional engineers have average annual earnings of just over £20,300, and a tenth of them are paid £30,000 or more. Technician earnings average just over £15,100 a year.

These figures emerge from the latest biennial survey of the engineering profession, out yesterday, from the Engineering Council, umbrella body for the profession.

For the past two years, the survey says, gross earnings for both engineer grades have kept comfortably ahead of price increases. The survey shows, on the basis of median earnings, that chartered engineers saw a rise of nearly 15 per cent over the two years, while technician engineers' earnings rose 16 per cent.

Highest earnings for both grades were to be found in the petroleum and petrochemicals industry, followed by electricity generation or distribution and postal and communications services. General management yielded the best rewards, but almost as good were marketing and sales for chartered engineers and, for

technician engineers, instrumentation and control.

Unemployment in the profession continues to be low, with only 1 per cent jobs at the time of the survey last April. There is also more overtime working, with about half the chartered engineers reporting working an average week of more than 42½ hours.

There were increases in the number of engineers taking courses in business studies or management, but three-quarters of them said that there was still room for improvement in their own continuing education and training.

Fewer professional engineers are now members of a trade union. The proportion of chartered engineers with union membership has dropped from 40 per cent to 36.7 per cent while technicians' engineers reported a drop from 53.5 per cent to 50.5 per cent.

Survey of Chartered and Technician Engineers 1987 by Remuneration Economics (£50) from the Engineering Council, 10 Maltravers Street, London WC2R 3ER.

## Two purchases by John Haggas

John Haggas has agreed to acquire Newark Woollen and Hermit Wool Shops which are privately-owned knitting wool retailing companies based in the Midlands and the North-east respectively. These acquisitions involve the issue of 1.79 million ordinary shares (about 8.2 per cent).

Newark's pretax profits for the year ended March 31 last were £336,000 on a turnover of £5.7 million, almost all of which derived from the sale of hand knitting wools. Hermit's pretax profits for the year ended March 31 last were £31,000 on a turnover of £2.1 million, almost all of which derived from the sale of hand knitting wools.

### Profits double

French Connection, the fashion group, has reported doubled pretax profits to £2.5 million at the interim stage. Turnover rose

by 36 per cent to £30.6 million and the dividend was unchanged at 1.75p. The board said that initial results indicate a good performance in the second half.

### Offer for PLM

A recommended offer is being made by Industrivärderna, a Swedish investment company, for PLM of Sweden. The terms are 13 convertible convertible notes.

### More company news is on page 30

notes in Industrivärderna for every 10 PLM shares. This offer is equal to a price for the PLM share of about 305 kronor (£28.75) based on the price for the Industrivärderna shares on October 23. PLM employees who own PLM convertible notes will receive a similar offer.

### Inco quarterly

Inco is paying a dividend of 5 cents for the third quarter of 1987. Net sales reached \$415 million (£246 million), against \$306 million, while operating results climbed to \$93 million (£50 million). During the first nine months of 1987, Inco generated an internal cash surplus of \$69 million which was used to reduce debt. It is entering the fourth quarter with the strongest cash position in five years for its principal products—nickel and copper—and with unit production costs below 1980 levels.

### RECENT ISSUES

Company	Price	Change
Alfa	120.45	+0.15
Amey Plastic (51p)	55.44	+0.14
Anglo Leasing	185.10	+1.10
Bentley (100p)	105.00	+0.00
Butte Mining (100p)	100.00	+0.00
Carlson	38.42	+0.02
Corporate Prop	141.00	+0.00
Dorland Pack (100p)	125.20	+0.20
Econ Forestry	103.00	+0.00
Explores	31.14	+0.14
Glaxo	216.00	+0.00
Guidance	90.48	+0.48
ISA Int (80p)	103.42	+0.42
Kingston Oil (100p)	101.45	+0.45
Kocher Knitwear	107.00	+0.00
Lloyd Thompson (170p)	180.30	+0.30
Marcel Group	88.00	+0.00
Power Corp	62.00	+0.00
Reckord (80p)	82.20	+0.20
Rolls-Royce (170p)	128.20	+0.20
Ross Consumer (100p)	86.00	+0.00
Rural	190.00	+0.00
Sac Archives	190.00	+0.00
Shethersbury (180p)	147.10	+0.10
Shelley Properties (200p)	194.10	+0.10
Tubular Extr	24.10	+0.10
URS Int	78.00	+0.00
USOC Int	141.00	+0.00
Widener Sec	26.15	+0.15
Zellers Ltd	135.00	+0.00

### RIGHTS ISSUES

Company	Price	Change
Harmony Ltd N/P	75.00	+0.00
Midwest Ben N/P	3.00	+0.00
Larson N/P	4.10	+0.10
Lifeshell N/P	4.20	+0.20
Marine N/P	2.10	+0.10
New England N/P	2.10	+0.10
Swansea N/P	2.10	+0.10
Stonhill N/P	2.10	+0.10
Waco N/P	2.10	+0.10

### THIRD MARKET

Company	Price	Change
485 105	105.00	+0.00
56 15	15.00	+0.00
150 110	110.00	+0.00
75 80	80.00	+0.00
111 55	55.00	+0.00
116 50	50.00	+0.00
192 61	61.00	+0.00
103 45	45.00	+0.00
123 103	103.00	+0.00
110 80	80.00	+0.00
130 120	120.00	+0.00
95 100	100.00	+0.00
228 150	150.00	+0.00
95 15	15.00	+0.00
11 11	11.00	+0.00
186 1	1.00	+0.00
15 20	20.00	+0.00
53 20	20.00	+0.00
72 65	65.00	+0.00
101 65	65.00	+0.00
56 58	58.00	+0.00
182 115	115.00	+0.00
120 103	103.00	+0.00
726 103	103.00	+0.00
715 103	103.00	+0.00
140 103	103.00	+0.00

## BASE LENDING RATES

Company	Rate
ABN	9.50%
Adam & Company	10.00%
BCCI	9.50%
Consolidated Crds	9.50%
Co-operative Bank	9.50%
C. Hoare & Co	9.50%
Hong Kong & Shanghai	9.50%
Lloyds Bank	9.50%
Nat Westminster	9.50%
Royal Bank of Scotland	9.50%
Treasury	9.50%
Chbank NA	9.50%

## LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Option	Call	Put	Call	Put
ABN	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Adam & Co	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
BCCI	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Consolidated Crds	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Co-operative Bank	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
C. Hoare & Co	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Hong Kong & Shanghai	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Lloyds Bank	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Nat Westminster	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Royal Bank of Scotland	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Treasury	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Chbank NA	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

## TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

Option	Call	Put	Call	Put
ABN	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Adam & Co	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
BCCI	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Consolidated Crds	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Co-operative Bank	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
C. Hoare & Co	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Hong Kong & Shanghai	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Lloyds Bank	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Nat Westminster	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Royal Bank of Scotland	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Treasury	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Chbank NA	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

## INVESTORS THE CITY EXCHANGE

Option	Call	Put	Call	Put
ABN	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Adam & Co	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
BCCI	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Consolidated Crds	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Co-operative Bank	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
C. Hoare & Co	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Hong Kong & Shanghai	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Lloyds Bank	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Nat Westminster	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Royal Bank of Scotland	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Treasury	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Chbank NA	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

## CITY EXCHANGE DATA SOURCE

Option	Call	Put	Call	Put
ABN	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Adam & Co	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
BCCI	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Consolidated Crds	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Co-operative Bank	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
C. Hoare & Co	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Hong Kong & Shanghai	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Lloyds Bank	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Nat Westminster	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Royal Bank of Scotland	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Treasury	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Chbank NA	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

## THE BECKMAN REPORT

Option	Call	Put	Call	Put
ABN	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Adam & Co	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
BCCI	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Consolidated Crds	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Co-operative Bank	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
C. Hoare & Co	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Hong Kong & Shanghai	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Lloyds Bank	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Nat Westminster	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Royal Bank of Scotland	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Treasury	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Chbank NA	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

## CITYCALL MARKET REPORT

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These companies have two things in common. They are all highly successful. They all rent trailers from TIP. They have achieved their success by a dedication to providing quality and choice to their own customers.

Our own success has been achieved in exactly the same way. For 19 years we have been Europe's leading trailer rental company.

We have 19 branches in the U.K., and 23 more on the Continent. All strategically sited to meet our customers' requirements. We have more trailers and more different types of trailers than any of our competitors.

Many of our customers are small, sometimes new businesses. And to these companies we offer a cost-effective way to conduct their business without tying up assets in capital equipment.

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We've come a long way in a short time and we plan to go a lot further.



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## BUSINESS SUMMARY

## Unit trust investment at record £1.15bn

The Unit Trust Association said yesterday that September had been a bumper month for the industry. Net new investment was a record £1.159 billion, and the total value of funds under management reached a record £50.333 billion. The number of unit-holder accounts rose by a record 329,000, giving a total of 4,749,000. Gross sales were £1.683 billion.

However, figures for October are expected to tell a different story. The UTA estimates the current figure for the total of funds under management to now be nearer £40 billion.

## Apprentices revival call

Mr Ian MacLaurin (right), the chairman of Tesco, yesterday called for apprentice schemes to be revived as a means of finding work for school leavers. They were regarded by some as "an educational misfit, yet they worked in the past and could work in the future," he said at the Associated Examining Board annual awards.



## Warner Howard talks

Warner Howard, which supplies commercial laundry systems and warm air hand dryers, is negotiating to buy a complementary business only months after going public.

The company said yesterday that increasing emphasis on new rental business had lifted margins and helped boost pretax profits from £1.21 million to £1.6 million in the half year to August on turnover of £6.31 million. There is an interim dividend of 0.93p. Warner Howard said it has introduced new products, some of which are particularly suited for rental to local authorities.

## Crest division

sold for £1m

Crest Nicholson, the property and construction group, has sold its electronic interests to Ogleby & Butler for £1.03 million. The annual pretax profits of the businesses being sold were £7,000 to end-October 1986. Net tangible assets at that date were £1.16 million. The consideration will be payable in cash.

## Property firm

issue flops

Allied London Properties' £40 million rights issue was another casualty of the stock market collapse. Almost half the convertible preference shares on offer have been left with underwriters. The issue, announced on September 10, attracted acceptances in respect of only 55.5 per cent of the new shares.

## Viking up at halftime

Viking Resources Trust reports profits up from £343,000 to £460,000 in the six months to end-September. The company is repeating the interim dividend at 0.55p a share. More significant, however, has been the doubling of the group's investment in American oil and gas producing fields, from £8.9 million to £17.9 million.

This continued acquisition policy has attracted Mr Ron Brierley and Mr Alan Bond as substantial shareholders. The board says the value of gas will experience "a considerable uplift" in the coming years and that Viking will benefit substantially. The trust's net asset value is up from 51p to 77.8p, reflecting continued stability in oil prices.

## Proceeds from National Bus estimated at £306m

Proceeds from the sale of the National Bus Company are expected to be three times the original estimate, Mr Rodney Lund, the chairman, said yesterday.

With most of the 72 subsidiaries sold, the disposal programme should be completed by next March - almost 12 months ahead of schedule.

Mr Lund, presenting the company's report and accounts for the 15 months to the end of March 1987, said it was estimated that the eventual net sales proceeds would be £306 million.

This figure was well in excess of the group's asset

value and contrasted with early speculation of proceeds between £80 million and £100 million.

The success of the NBC disposal programme means the Government should receive more than £80 million extra from the proceeds than expected after outstanding loans and debts are repaid.

The privatization of NBC, whose subsidiaries include National Express, City of Oxford Motor Services and Southdown, was approved by the Government in May last year.

The Government, however, decided the company should

be privatized not as one unit but as separate local subsidiaries.

By October 1, 45 of the 72 subsidiaries had been sold with the whole or a majority shareholding going to the management and/or employees in 27 instances.

Mr Lund said the selling-off of the company had led to "more than a few complications" but he paid tribute to local managements for their hard work.

One consequence of the privatization is that Victoria Coach Station in London, will be sold to London Regional Transport.

## Pressac soars 64% to £2.8m

By Alison Eadie

Pretax profits at Pressac Holdings, the electro-mechanical component manufacturer and precision engineer, were 64.3 per cent higher at £2.8 million in the year to end-July, on turnover up 24.9 per cent at £30 million.

Sales showed good growth in telecommunications, television, automotive and specialist engineering. Gross profit rose 33 per cent as margins improved. Overheads were contained and interest payable

fell because of good cash generation.

Pressac ended the year with cash of £730,000 against a break-even position the previous year. It also spent £2.6 million on capital projects during the year.

Overseas sales rose to £7 million in turnover. The United States showed a particularly strong performance, with good demand for Pressac's printed circuits for car dashboards. The company

supplies Ford in the with 50 per cent of its printed circuits, Chrysler with nearly 50 per cent and General Motors with 20 per cent.

The new year has commenced well, the company said, and it has experienced good growth in all areas. The company has just won a new order from British Telecom's network division.

The total dividend was raised to 3.125p from 2.5p.

## Caution as trade in tin restarts

By Colin Narborough

Tin futures, trading for the first time since the collapse of the world tin market two years ago, yesterday got off to an understandably cautious start on the Kuala Lumpur Commodity Exchange.

Since the failure of the International Tin Council's buffer stock in October 1985, which triggered a global crisis for the metal and left a £900 million trail of bad debts, there has been no organized market offering hedging facilities for tin.

The London Metal Exchange, the world's premier metal market, responded to the LTC collapse by suspending dealing in the metal. But Mr Christopher Green, the LME chairman earlier this month said London would take a fresh look at several contracts, including tin.

The modest 145 tonnes of turnover in tin futures on the KLCE was hailed by dealers as good for the first day, especially given the prevailing state of the markets. November tin closed at 684 cents a kilo.

The tin mining industry in Malaysia, the world's biggest producer, welcomed the dollar-denominated futures contract as a useful instrument for helping plan production.

## Microfilm raises dividend by 50%

Microfilm Reprographics is paying a final dividend of 2p, making 3p (2p), for the year to June 30. It is also proposing a one-for-three scrip issue. Pretax profit rose from £1.81 million to £2.3 million on turnover of £11.47 million (£8.74 million). Earnings per share were 16.2p (9.7p). The board reports that the level of business throughout the group has continued to increase.

Sales and profits for the first two months of the current year are running ahead of the comparable period for last year. A total dividend of 2.75p (2.66p, adjusted) is being paid for the year to September 30 by Unitcorp Trust. Pretax profit fell to £806,000 (£816,000). There is no extraordinary dividend this year (£87,000). Earnings per share, before extraordinary items, were 3.36p (4.03p, adjusted) and after were 3.36p (3.40p, adjusted).

Interim dividend of 0.6p for the six months to June 30. Pretax revenue slipped to £299,458 (£306,199). This year there is an extraordinary dividend of £108,375 (£111,069) and after were 1.07p (1.06p).

OK Bazaars (1929) of South Africa is paying an interim dividend of 24 cents (21 cents) for the half-year to September 30. Pretax profit reached R11.66 million (£3.41 million), against R9.33 million on sales of R1,290.63 million (£1,103.87 million). Earnings per share were 44 cents (35 cents).

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## MEDIA &amp; MARKETING

## Television's other face

## OPINION

David Graham

Five years ago, with brilliance and élan, Jeremy Isaacs launched Channel 4 and with it a new production sector: the independents.

They have produced an enormous range of material, from clever, enjoyable entertainment like *Treasure Hunt* to innovative comedy, from documentaries to tiny five-minute units of television that hadn't existed before. C4 liberated a new kind of political television which opinion was freely explored.

Some programmes went over the top and some innovations were blind alleys; but none the less it has been a heady ride. *Film on Four* was a very solid achievement. New sports were brought to the screen. The Government noticed what was happening and is now committed to building a television industry around independent production.

Television, like any other industry, has a duty to the economy — to be efficient. Jeremy Isaacs's genius lies in his desire to translate currents of contemporary intellectual and artistic life on to the screen. But what happens to the channel now that its presiding genius is leaving? Already, its schedules are looking uncertain. It has a feel of the Seventies. Politically, it still somehow assumes the view that the left is nice but the right is nasty. Its current affairs content has been spiky in parts, dull in others. Its view of the world is ludicrously limited and tendentious. The Third World consists of Nicaragua, and a banana plantation where people are being exploited.

Most of the Channel British-made comedy series have been ponderous. Contemporary drama policy has been uncertain, one of its most successful series, *The Price*, having been regarded as a bit too popular, its very funding in old-fashioned, tied as it is to the ITV companies. In short, it needs a new institutional structure and programme policy.

The idea that C4 should be separated from ITV has had wide assent, but then the hard questions begin. Should the Government fund it directly, to preserve its remit of innovation and the serving of minorities? That seems out of the question. . . . and anyway, what are "minorities?" Should it sell its own advertising in a competitive market, regulated by the IBA? No other channel in the history of broadcasting has combined the sale of advertising as its sole source of revenue with small-audience programmes.

Perhaps the best solution would be to persuade some private investors with deep pockets — that is, a narrowcast channel which sells advertising could find a new broadcasting niche and make money. Channel 4 could then be turned into some kind of trust.

The reason for hope is that clustered in the C4 audience are the young people — bright, un-sentimental but egalitarian, dedicated — who represent a new socio-economic generation. These people may have voted Labour once but the Labour Party is moving much too slowly for them (indeed, Channel 4 has found it hard to come to terms with the revival of liberal ideas that has spread across the world and which C4 seems to prefer to call "Thatcherism"). Many of this generation are making a lot of money, but their outlook follows no established pattern. Society is watching this space.

Some of C4's faults come from a desire to meet intellectual challenges of the Seventies. They should not detract from C4's great achievement: that unlike the American public broadcasting system, it has not merely accommodated the tastes of middle-aged community leaders.

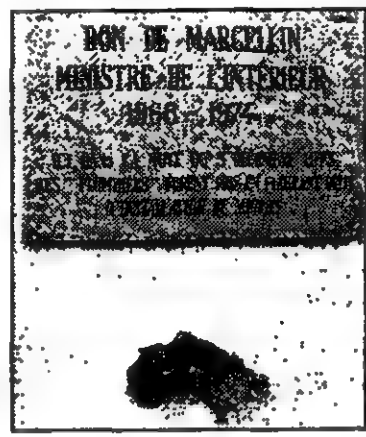
David Graham is chief executive of the Diverse Group, which has produced such series as *Diverse Reports* and *Election Briefs for Channel 4*.

When the Government's offer of shares in British Petroleum closes at 10 o'clock this morning, it will, courtesy of its underwriters, have raised £7.2 billion from the issue — even if not a single share is bought by the public. But the failure to attract those small investors will focus attention as never before on how much it costs to sell privatization.

Generally the Government appoints an advertising agency and a PR firm to handle its floatations. The ambitious corporate communications firm Dewe Rogerson did not endear itself to its rivals by building on success with TSB, British Gas, Britoil and British Telecom to grab both halves of the BP package.

If everything had gone according to plan, the Government would have raised its £7.8 billion from six million shareholders at a cost of around £20 million in advertising — £3.30 per applicant or £390 in revenue for every pound spent. But as Tony Carlisle, deputy chairman of Dewe Rogerson, puts it, last week's share price plunge "totally changed the playing field".

It means that no more than 200,000 new shareholders are likely to apply, fewer than any issue since British Telecom in November 1984. If so, Dewe Rogerson will have spent £100 per applicant, significantly more than has become the norm for government privatization issues.



Battle honour: the plaque and the hole in the wall left when French "plumbers" tried to bug Le Canard

## What price the big sell?

The privatization programme has cost more than £100 million in PR and advertising. Was it money well spent? Andrew Lycett reports

## BEING PART OF IT: THE CAMPAIGNS AND THE COSTS

Date of issue	Amount	Inquiries per station	Share applications	Ad agency	PR agency	Advertising cost	Cost per applicant
British Telecom	Nov 84 £4bn	1,400,000	2,300,000	Dorlands	Dewe Rogerson	£23m	£10.00
British Aerospace	May 85 £550m	c.160,000	260,000	Davidson Pearce	Streets Financial	£2.3m	£8.80
British	Aug 85 £450m	200,000	450,000	Dewe Rogerson	Dewe Rogerson	£3.5m	£7.80
Cable & Wireless	Dec 85 £530m	no register	218,000	CDP	none	£3.5m	£18.00
British Gas	Dec 86 £5.4bn	7,500,000	4,400,000	Young & Rubicam	Dewe Rogerson	£26m	£5.90
TSB	Sept 86 £1.3bn	3,300,000	5,000,000	Dewe Rogerson	Dewe Rogerson	£7m	£2.80
British Airways	Feb 87 £900m	600,000	1,100,000	Allan Brady Marsh	VPI & Brodie St	£10.3	£8.40
Rolls-Royce	May 87 £1.4bn	800,000	2,000,000	CDP	VPI	£3.5m	£1.75
British Airports Authority	July 87 £1.2bn	1,100,000	2,200,000	J.W. Thompson	VPI, Chs Barker	£4.5m	£2.00
British Petroleum	Oct 87 £7.2bn	6,250,000	?	Dewe Rogerson	Dewe Rogerson	£20m	?

\* 2nd tranche 1st and 2nd tranche

Advertising cost per applicant (acpa) is a reliable, if somewhat crude, indicator of effectiveness. Apart from an aberration with the third tranche of Cable and Wireless in December 1985, costs have edged steadily downwards since British Telecom (an acpa of £10). The most successful was in May this year when Collet Dickinson Pearce (as the advertising agency) and VPI Pollen International (VPI) as the public relations

firm managed to attract 2 million applications for an outlay of £3.5 million (an acpa of £1.75). Even if it had attracted six million applicants, BP's acpa would have been significantly higher at £3.30. David McLaren, managing director of Collet Dickinson Pearce (CDP), says he could have done the campaign for a fifth of that price.

He denies this is sour grapes (his company lost to Dewe

Rogerson after reaching a shortlist in May). And he believes the £26 million spent on British Gas's floatation was "fantastic", pointing out that a high-spending washing powder such as Ariel spends only £9 million a year on the media.

He thinks that good value was provided at Cable and Wireless, where despite the high acpa, the shares enjoyed only a tiny 1 per cent premium in the market on the day of

issue. This, McLaren suggests, meant his company had done its homework right, researching how many people would take up the offer and presenting this information to the Treasury to allow it to set the correct price.

Angus Maitland, director of VPI, also believes it is as important part of the marketing of an issue to get the price right. He refers to a model developed with MORI "predicting propensity to

buy". "If twice as much had been spent on advertising BAA," he says, "and the premium had been higher, it would not have been a successful issue."

But Tony Carlisle comes at the problem from a different perspective. His objective is "creating a perception of scarcity" for an issue, and he sees a premium as a practical demonstration of success — defined as "everyone believing that, when an offer is made, there is much more demand than supply".

His thinking was first applied to the BT issue. He needed to do more than just sell the issue — he had to create a new share-owning class, reaching people who had never owned shares before. It was therefore a big-budget operation. By pre-selling BT as a company worth investing in, and researching the results, he was able to target eight million people who were interested. "We then set about creating a national event, trying to inform rather than doing a hard sell," Dewe Rogerson's head of a Share Information Office, generally establishing the guidelines for subsequent issues.

As for BP, he says, "We have done it with a substantially lower budget and over a shorter period than British Gas. I don't think attitudes to BP or to wider share ownership have changed as a result of the crash. Only the numbers who will come into the BP issue have changed."

## Another gem of a scoop

## Le Canard enchaîné

How France's Canard is keeping in the swim

There is no doubt which room has pride of place at Le Canard enchaîné. It is the "salle des micro". But when Claude Angeli, joint editor-in-chief of the French satirical weekly, offered to show it to me, I thought at first he was probably referring to some kind of hi-tech news room.

The reality was more interesting. We entered the nearest room in the Canard's studios, scruffy offices and I was shown the "trou", the paper's best preserved battle scar — a hole in the wall with a plaque over it, which translates as: "Gift of Marcelin, Minister of the Interior

one of the dozens of scandals flushed out by the Canard during its 72 years of publication. Angeli — tall and angular, — reeks off some of the others. The Giscard diamond affair in 1979 is the best known.

The latest scoop was last week when it revealed the alleged involvement of French Minister of Justice Albin Chalandon in the Chaumet jewellery business, which collapsed last June.

Angeli says his stories are not, as is popularly believed, based on leaked documents by a French bureaucracy chronically split along political lines. The journalists find

their own stories; but then they have more motivation than most — 45 of them own the paper, lock, stock and barrel.

They do not take dividends, but they pay themselves well. The lowest salary for a journalist is around £2,000 a month. There are no outside shareholders. The Canard does not even take advertising. It relies entirely on sales.

Circulation is beginning to rise again after a drop to around 350,000 copies a week in 1985. Last year it was up to 400,000 again. Recently, it was forced to raise its cover price from 5F50 to 6F. Announcing this increase it noted: "Our readers will know the price of the Canard's independence."

Michael Duncan

## Changing the face of Boots

## ASSISTANT MARKETING MANAGER (Merchandising)

circa £13,000

It will take a rare skill to make Boots' Beauty Departments better, that is for certain.

What is also certain is that the person who fulfils our expectations will be able to apply their considerable merchandising experience to a wide range of beauty products, whether cosmetics or perfume, men's fragrance, sun-tanning products or swimming costumes, to name but a few.

Reporting to the Marketing Manager, you will be involved in every aspect of enhancing our in-store Beauty Areas. Your creative frame of mind will be invaluable in managing the design and installation of display furniture and fittings, with a practical approach to optimising use of limited space. Your eye for detail will allow you to make a positive contribution to

recommendation and implementation of effective point of sale displays.

Simply, with a combination of skills, experience and strength of character, you will be involved in changing the face of Boots.

This exciting position demands that you will be a graduate with around four years' relevant marketing experience, biased towards merchandising but giving you expertise across the full marketing mix.

For this Nottingham based position we offer an attractive salary and all the benefits you would expect from a major, blue-chip company, including profit sharing, staff discount and pension schemes. A generous relocation allowance is available, where appropriate, to help you move to this attractive East Midlands city.

If you believe you have the skills and commitment to meet this challenge, write with full c.v., stating salary details to Barbara Gouldthorp, Recruitment Officer, The Boots Company PLC, Head Office, Nottingham NG2 3AA. Tel. (0602) 592174.



## Publicity Officer

The Central Office of Information — the British Government's publicity organisation — has a vacancy for a Media Training Officer.

The successful candidate will join the department's Information Studies Unit to plan, manage and act as Lecturer for a wide range of publicity training courses for officials of overseas governments, UK Information staff and Diplomatic Service Officers.

He/she must have experience in one or more communication skills, journalism, publication production, public relations etc. and knowledge of overseas media would be an advantage.

Candidates should be effective organisers, able to plan well ahead, and convey their media expertise to a wide variety of course members of varying backgrounds and nationalities.

The successful candidate will join the Government Information Service with opportunities for career development and promotion in Government departments and agencies mainly in London.

The post is graded Information Officer. Salary scale £11,619 to £13,970 (including Inner London Weighting). Starting salary depends on experience and qualifications.

Please send a postcard for an application form to:

GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICE

Miss C. Richards, HR 827, Central Office of Information, Hercules Road, London SE1 7DU quoting Ref No 457/INTC87. The closing date for returned forms is 13 November 1987.

The Civil Service is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

## Public Relations Officer

PO 5/6 £16,368 - £18,768 (£16,740 - £19,194 w/e/1 1/2.87)

This newly established post is based at County Hall in the Clerk and Chief Executive's Department. We are looking for someone with the necessary expertise to prepare and implement a public relations strategy which will not only improve communications with the media and the public but also increase staff awareness of their own role in promoting a positive image for the Authority. Responsibilities will include advising and assisting Chief Officers and co-ordinating all the Council's public relations activities, in particular the issue of press releases and the production and promotion of publicity material.

Applicants should be able to demonstrate a high level of ability and achievement. Previous public relations experience and a proven record of success in that field are essential, together with an appreciation of, and commitment to, the services provided by local government.

Generous relocation expenses are available in approved cases. For further details and an application form please contact Pat Cowson on Trun (0872) 74282, extension 2106, or write to her at County Hall, Trevelyan Road, Truro, Cornwall TR1 3AY.

Closing date: 16th November 1987.

CORNWALL COUNTY COUNCIL

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Creative Marketing Limited needs an experienced general artist to work on various accounts, large and small, involving some creative work, production of most types of visual, plus simple illustration and mechanicals.

A good knowledge of typography would be an advantage, as would an interest in computers and the ability to key type.

Do you have all or most of these skills, and would like to work in a friendly, small team in a nice town centre environment? If so, call Tony on (0494) 37766 or 36560 without delay. There could be a good career opportunity for the right all-rounder.

Evenings and weekends, telephone (0491) 36351.

CREATIVE Marketing Limited

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You would be responsible for detailed research and analysis of chosen themes, planning conference programmes and co-ordinating speakers.

A graduate aged between 25-40 is preferred. Some knowledge of financial services is essential. A background in information science, librarianship, investment analysis or financial journalism could be relevant.

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Please write enclosing CV to Westminster and City Programmes, 231 Kensington Lane, London SE11 5QU.

## Managing Director

for Darton, Longman and Todd Ltd, the well-known and highly regarded religious book-publishing house. The M.D., in addition to being the Company's chief executive, will also function as Marketing Director for this specialist publisher, which will very shortly become a Common Ownership company, giving all its staff a formal stake in its continuing growth and prosperity.

Candidates must have successful marketing and/or sales managerial experience in a publishing or other media environment, while considerable general management ability and business acumen are also necessary. Obviously in this context sympathy with, if not commitment to, the Christian faith is highly desirable.

Age-range: c.35-55. Salary: negotiable at an appropriate level, plus car and the usual benefits.

Please write with c.v. or telephone in complete confidence to Roger Stacey or Deborah Piss at:

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LONDON W8 7TA Telephone: 01-229 6423/9171

## SALES EXECUTIVES (Graphic Studio)

Quality is the key-word for this leading graphics studio whose reputation has earned household name clients with accounts worth over £100,000. Continued company success has led to the creation of two new Sales Executive positions to take full advantage of the rapidly increasing demand for high quality artwork and design.

Your proven success in sales, marketing flair, self-motivation and drive will be rewarded by an attractive package including a basic salary with an escalating commission agreement operating above a minimum target figure, company car and a comprehensive pension scheme after a period of satisfactory service.

Women are encouraged to apply.

Please write with full CV to:

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Irwin Technical Ltd,  
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London EC2A 4BT

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An international sales and marketing company has vacancies for intelligent and articulate sales people with the personality, drive and ability to succeed.

Candidates, who will be based in Windsor, must be car owners, age 21 - 40, energetic and hard working. Previous sales experience, although helpful, is not essential as full training is given. The position offers a qualified minimum of £1,000 per month and high financial rewards for those who make the grade. Opportunities also exist for transfer at a later date to our offices in Europe, North America and Australia.

Telephone the recruitment officer on 0753 854995 or send your C.V. and a contact telephone number to:

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## MEDIA &amp; MARKETING

## Midwife with a blue pen

Six people will feel "like midwives at a baby show" while waiting for tomorrow night's Booker prize-winner to be announced. They are not the six short-listed authors, who will be playing various versions of the literary sang-froid which is customary on these occasions. They are the publishers' editors, a relatively unsung tribe, whose task is to case the birth of books and deliver them into the outside world.

There is no set formula for the relationship. At one extreme there are the writers who need to have books dragged out of them. Douglas Adams (*Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*) is currently the most famous example of one of these. His recent editor, Sonny Mehta of Pan, was forced into hiring a hotel suite and standing over him in order to make him finish a book.

At the other extreme there is Iris Murdoch, making her fifth appearance on the shortlist this year, with her 23rd novel, *The Book and the Brotherhood*. She writes them in long-hand in exercise books. The function of her editor (currently Carmen Calli, head of Chatto and Windus) is to arrange for them to be typed into typescript and returned to the author for checking. Not a suggestion may be made, a character queried, a comma altered, or a semi-colon challenged.

In between these extremes are varying degrees of co-operation, criticism and sympathy. Many relationships endure through a whole lifetime of literary labour. The recent takeovers and mass resignations which have swept through book publishing have threatened to rupture many of these long-lasting partnerships. Some authors have followed their editors to other publishers rather than be saddled with a new face across the lunch table or a cold new voice on the telephone.

What is it, then, that an editor can do for an author? This year's crop of Booker midwives provides some remarkable examples.

Certainly the closest relationship in the whole half dozen is that between Penelope Lively (author of *Moon Tiger*) and her editor at André Deutsch, Anthony Thwaite. Unusually for an editor, he is also a writer and poet (though Peter Ackroyd - *Chatterton* - has in Christopher Sinclair-Stevenson at Hamish Hamilton a writer of non-fiction, whose *That Sweet Enemy* about France is currently enjoying considerable success).

The Thwaite and the Livelys are

On the eve of the Booker Prize awards, Pearson Phillips looks at the curious relationship between authors and their editors



From birth to Booker: Anthony Thwaite with author Penelope Lively (on the left) and Philippa Harrison with Nina Bayden

**'It is something I've waited for all my life'**

old friends. She left Heinemann to be edited by him. Their working relationship began in the late Seventies when he edited *Encounter* and persuaded her to submit short stories. He is also singular among publishing editors in that he is the past chairman of the Booker judges.

He not only helped with the birth of *Moon Tiger* but was also present at its conception. "It was three years ago," he explains. "I had won £1,000 for the Cholmondeley Poetry Award. I decided to spend it on something extravagant and chose a Nile cruise. My wife and I put the idea to the Livelys and they came along. We actually found the Cairo house where Penelope, the daughter of an Englishman working in a Cairo bank, had been brought up. Egyptian childhood memories feature largely in *Moon Tiger*."

The manuscript was on his desk when he joined Deutsch last year. "I knew at once it was a marvellous book, the strongest she had done." He had three pages of typed comments to send to her, but only one major suggestion. That concerned the way certain chapters were begun. "After thinking about it for a while she agreed with me."

Amanda Conroy, aged 30, handled Nigeria's Chinua Achebe (*Anchovy of the Savannah*), although she has never actually met him. "I much enjoyed dealing with him by the slightly old-fashioned means of correspondence. In some cases it is necessary to suggest quite major structural changes or draw attention to inappropriate characters. But with Achebe there were just some small stylistic queries."

She sees editing as a twofold task. First, getting books. That means keeping up with agents and reading manuscripts. Then befriending the author and representing his views on such questions as cover design and publicity. "I find," she says, "that if I like a book, I invariably like the author."

Philippa Harrison, now managing director and publisher at Macmillan, believes that editors spend too much time and energy on the acquiring function, and not enough on supporting their authors. She had the potentially difficult task of taking over Nina Bayden (*Circles of Deceit*) from her long-time editor George Hardinge, who retired.

"When I had studied the manuscript I went round to see her. I queried one small thing, but it helped to give her confidence in me

because it was a small detail which others had missed."

Tom Maschler, head of Jonathan Cape (Brian Moore's *The Colour of Blood*), says he has lost count of how many times one of his authors has been on a Booker shortlist. As Moore is a California resident, the basic editing of his book was carried out by the American publisher.

Maschler admits to being incapable of reading a manuscript without holding a pencil. "I am always alert for sentences which sound wrong, or for repetitions."

"You develop a technique for making suggestions in a sympathetic way which doesn't make an author clam up. You can put it in the form of a question, a request for help. I wonder if you could explain to me just why you made James leave his wife... I am not sure I understand his motivation..."

He sometimes has to help people through the various forms of writer's block. "Lack of confidence is the most frequent. They need to know that what they are doing is going to work out well. Sometimes, of course, you have to persuade them to put it aside because it isn't working."

How does the relationship look from the author's side? Most authors claim they are looking for a sympathetic friend who understands what they are trying to do. They do not want to be allowed to an editor for no other reason than there is a job to be done.

Penelope Lively recalls from the heavy-handed, literal-minded power struggle of many American editors. "I once wrote that the hallway of a house was illuminated by a 'dark, sub-aquatic light coming through the fanlight over the front door'. I got a red pencil note on the text: 'Meaning of sub-aquatic is under water. Does author intend?'"

She says that having Thwaite to look after her at André Deutsch "is something I have waited for all my life. I am in safe hands with an exceptional critic and poet, a man whose literary judgement I respect. That doesn't mean that I would always accept his suggestions."

But there is more to it than just having a clever critic. "He knows what I am about. We have always shared an interest in the operation of the memory. He is sufficiently on my side to be able to show me areas of development and direction towards which I ought to go."

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## Waiting in the wings?

Is Peat Marwick McLintock trying to do a Saatchi in reverse? The accountant-cum-management consultancy looks almost as keen to break out of its traditional base in financial services as the brothers are to break in.

In recent months the media and entertainment division of Peat's management consultancy arm has adopted an increasingly high profile. David Murrell, the partner in charge, denies any ambition to invest directly in operating companies in the field: "We're not going to take 30 per cent of Virgin or 50 per cent of Rank," he says.

But Peat has been expanding in the wider business services field where Saatchi, too, is now active. Earlier this year it bought the world's largest information technology strategists, and Murrell says it has even crossed his mind that Peat could build on its in-house design and public relations teams.

If Peat did decide to enter Saatchi's stronghold in advertising and PR it would make a formidable competitor, with world-wide turnover of £1.8 billion and 55,000 employees.

## Setting the pace

The commodities page of tomorrow's *Financial Times* will be an historic artefact: the last page of any national newspaper to be typeset using the old hot metal process. The *FT* has made the change-over to photo-setting two months ahead of schedule. Other papers like the *Guardian*, *Mail* and *Express* have photo-setting but still employ compositors to do the work. "The real revolution is not whether type is cold or hot set, but who sets it," David Bell, managing editor of the *FT*, points out.

## Today's wait

Today's the day *Today* is 30, and celebrations are planned at Radio 4's morning programme. But not today. At the BBC, publicising an anniversary is much more important than the anniversary itself, so history has been re-written and *Today* will be celebrating its birthday three weeks from now, because that is the first week the programme could secure the front cover of *Radio Times*. Clearly *Today*'s attitude to dates and times is as cavalier as that of its first presenter, the much-missed Jack de Mania.

## China station

Hurry, hurry! They don't come much cheaper than this. The *Sound of Music* makes its debut on Chinese television next month and advertisers are being offered airtime at a cost per million of around 0.00098 pence. The film is the first of 52 from Rupert Murdoch's 20th Century Fox library, which the

Chinese are broadcasting over the next year, and half of China's 600 million television viewers are expected to watch. Advertisers can buy 30-second spots for a mere \$5,000, but the Fox men suggest you forget the mass audience and treat it as an opportunity to make your company's name familiar to Chinese decision makers.

## Briefly...

A new media magazine enters an already crowded market sector next month with the launch of *Commercial*, edited by ex-Creative Review boss Brian Davies. After last week's announcement of staff cuts the BBC has been criticized by its own chief medical officer for putting its staff under unnecessary stress. Independent production companies' names are becoming as colourful as those of rock bands: the latest is Glasgow-based Big Star in a Wee Picture, currently working on a "revolutionary entertainment show" for Channel 4... ITV and the Labour Party have a lot in common, according to Greg Dyke, director of programmes for London Weekend: both are old-style working class institutions in need of a facelift. Celebrations among *Sunday Telegraph* staff, who have been told their circulation has overtaken *The Observer*... Moscow's Gostelradio wants to co-produce Russia's first television movie with the West: the Soviets are talking to Atlanta cable TV mogul Ted Turner about "an allegory about co-existence in the 21st century".

Nick Higham

## BBC APPOINTMENTS

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£10,881 - £15,388\*

Our Manchester Regional Newsroom has a vacancy for an experienced journalist.

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## ALL BOX NO. REPLY SHOULD BE SENT TO:

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P.O. BOX 434  
VIRGINIA STREET,  
WAPPING,  
LONDON  
E1 9SD







01-481 4481

## LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

01-481 4481

## Executive Secretary - Director of Sales

# An Excellent Senior Opportunity

Prime is a dynamic, young systems company that has some of the country's most ambitious people working at our Hounslow Head Office.

Our Director of Sales needs a smart and presentable secretary to organise his day to day business. Ideally, you're a mature person (25 years+), who is unflappable, responsible and highly organised.

You should aspire to working at senior/boardroom level where you will need excellent administrative, shorthand and WP skills. First class communication abilities are essential, together with tact and diplomacy as you will not only liaise with people internally, but also deal with our customers. Previous experience in a sales environment would be an advantage.

We can offer a competitive salary and good company benefits to the right person as well as excellent career opportunities. To find out more send your cv to Julie Hall, Human Resources Specialist, Prime Computer UK Ltd, 2-4 Lampton Road, Hounslow, Middlesex TW3 1JW. Tel: 01-572 7400.



### PERSONALITY SECRETARY £10,500

Excellent opening for a bright and competent secretary with sound shorthand/WP skills to work as PA to a senior manager of a newly formed City based bank. A responsible, challenging career move.

### MERCHANT BANK SEC £11,000

First class benefits on offer to a fully fledged Sec/PA with good SH/Typing and WP skills. Applicants should be 'A' level educated and possess a friendly, easy going manner. Call us now for details.

### OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR £11,000

Interesting and varied role for self motivated administrator working for small oil company in SW1. There is plenty of scope to utilise your good communication and secretarial/WP skills.

### LEGAL SECRETARY £10,500 + Perks

Ideal opportunity for bright secretary with proven SH/audio skills working for 2 young lawyers. Excellent telephone manner and ability to liaise with people at all levels is essential. Good promotion prospects.

### FOR BILINGUAL SEC'S - PLEASE CALL US

WE HAVE MANY POSITIONS

CONTACT: LESLEY COX-BRYDEN

OR LIZ ROBERTS ON 01-225 1777

CHARTLEIGH APPOINTMENTS

43, BROMPTON ROAD,

KNIGHTSBRIDGE, SW3 1DE

## LANGUAGES?

French/Marketing Director of Int cosmetic co requires friendly efficient sec with fluent French, Gd presentation, a fast for marketing and initiative essential. Mts 2 yrs exp. To £12,000. Excellent career opportunity for a top tip bilingual French sec (English SH) here in a City firm of stockbrokers. If you have energy, enthusiasm and ability to handle lots of client contact call now for further info. Please £10,000 + cost base.

GERMAN/Exciting and fast moving post with some admin duties for competent sec with Gd German. Some admin, suit elevates 1st. Salary £8,000 + cost base.

TRILINGUAL: French & Spanish sec/translator for busy Int design co. Good typing + some of humour essential £10,000-£12,000 min + base.

For these and many others call

THE LANGUAGE SPECIALISTS

Merron Emp Agg, 7 Henrietta Place,

London, W1M 9AG. 01 636 1487

No agencies.

MAUREN VENTON,

Blackrod Ltd, Threeways House,

40-44 Clapstone Street,

London W1P 7EA.

No agencies.

## TELEVISION

A leading West End production company is looking for a PA/secretary to work for its Director of Television. The successful applicant must be a graduate, over 25, have experience of working at senior level and have good organisational abilities. High secretarial standard essential. Shorthand preferable. WP experience necessary. Excellent salary according to age and experience. Please apply in writing, enclosing CV to:

Maureen Venton,

Blackrod Ltd, Threeways House,

40-44 Clapstone Street,

London W1P 7EA.

No agencies.

## PARTNERS SECRETARY

£10,500 neg

for young expanding West End Solicitors.

Experience preferred. Friendly atmosphere and modern offices. 4 weeks vac.

Come and join us.

Call Michael Marcus on 734-7182

## SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST

(NO SHORTHAND REQUIRED)

We are looking for an enthusiastic secretary who is interested in working for a leading London based law firm. The role involves a mix of secretarial and reception duties. Good communication skills coupled with the confidence to deal with many of our clients is essential.

If you are between 21-45, we can offer a salary in the region of £11,000, an attractive working environment with a friendly professional team.

Please telephone Lucie Bonwell on 01-584 5431

NO AGENCIES

## GRADUATE OR 'A' LEVELS FOR TV

£9,800

In this dynamic Sales environment you will be trained in their

trafficking division... enjoy a strong admin

role in TV time and TV commercial! The

pressure is intense with deadlines to meet!

You will have sec skills but as important is your interpersonal ability

to comprehend their systems and work smartly. Call us today

on 01-493 8969

Options Personnel Consultants.

SALES/MARKETING CONSULTANT SW6

A rapidly expanding company is looking for a second jobber to grow with our organisation with the objective of managing the

secretarial and administrative workload of a group of consultants. Good personal and excellent communication skills essential as a considerable amount of client contact will be involved. 28,000 package.

Telephone 01 385 1220

SECRETARY

required for West End solicitors. Audio essential, SH preferred, ambition and hard work rewarded.

Ring 01-496 9075

and ask for Mr MacBennarty

### RIGHT HAND £15,000 + BENS

Help Board Dir as right hand dealing with the great variety of duties such as an important post demands. Must be nicely presented, well spoken & not mind some sh/typ. Set inc 25% bonus.

### ADVENTUROUS SOCIAL SEC £12,000 + BENS

Willing to accompany boss on business trips. Organise & act as hostess for cocktail parties etc, become travel agent for trips & holidays, accountant for expenses & telephonist, to liaise with clients.

### EXECUTIVE SECRETARY £11,000 + BENS

Chance for PA Sec to become more involved in admin whilst partnering Chief Exec in his business. Suit strong personality who can make decisions & enjoy responsibility. Free lunch daily plus sports & social club where you can work-out the stress of your work-week.

Phone 01 248 2014 or 01 585 9851

for appointment

ANN WARRINGTON

SECRETARIAL

CAREERS

SPILT FOR CHOICE!

EXHIBITION ORGANISER - £9,000

UK travel for this young Sec in WY Exhibition Co. Brins, good organisation & 50 wpm typ. Age 19+

COSMETICS in W1 - £7,500

Famous cosmetic house urgently seeks young Sec. for Product Manager. Good typing on WP. No sh/typ. Age 19+

INT'L TV - £9,500

Some foreign travel for lively Sec. with advertising background. 50 wpm typ. Age 24+

INT'L DRINKS CO. - SW1 - £11,500

France Director of friendly Co. needs Sec. to help lighten his load. sh/typ & WP. Age 20+

PERSONNEL - W3 - £12,000

Diplomatic Senior Sec. for highly confidential work in large organisation. 100 wpm typ. & WP. Age 25.

Even if none of the above completes your puzzle, do ring us as we have many other interesting Secretarial jobs available.

Tel. No. 01-431 8802 (Oxford Circus)

JIGSAW

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

NO SHORTHAND

£11,000

Lots of involvement, lots of admin, + lots of organising to do! Legal experience is not a requirement as the secretary to the Commercial Partner of these West End solicitors, just good audio and WP skills. A positive point - the last secretary has just become a trainee legal executive with them.

City 377 8600

West End 439 7001

SECRETARIES PLUS

AUDIO SECRETARY

Starting salary upto £11,000

Challenging and extremely interesting position working for a partner handling entertainment, commercial and divorce work in this medium sized law firm between Westminster and St James's. Legal experience not essential, but excellent command of English and secretarial skills a must. Shorthand not essential. Regular reviews, 18.75% holiday (rising to 5).

Please ring Phyll Daffern

on 01 222 9070.

## SECRETARY TO SENIOR PARTNER

Salary: Circa £15,000

Age: 25-30

For a small firm of Chartered Surveyors in EC2. Excellent shorthand/typing skills are required, with some audio and WP.

If you have a knowledge of telephony, hieroglyphics, and a sense of humour please telephone:

Penny Bazell

01-506 7461

(No agencies)

## ENGLISH/ITALIAN

Telephonist/Receptionist required for international firm of lawyers. Experience preferred. Excellent salary sec, plus bi-annual bonus.

Please contact Mary Hamilton on

01-242 2919 for interview.

## Secretarial Opportunities in Property Consultancy

London Competitive remuneration

A major international commercial organisation which has developed a highly successful and fast-expanding specialist property consultancy, wants to ensure that it has excellent secretarial back-up. Our client needs a number of secretaries who vary in their levels of skill and experience. We would like to hear from you if you suit one of the following positions: The senior position services one of the senior consultants and his team. The medium positions service their professional staff, including the central management group. The junior positions are exactly that, and excellent for developing newly

trained skills. In all these positions good keyboard and audio skills are essential, and increasing seniority requires administrative abilities.

Remuneration is competitive and dependent on experience. If you would like to work as part of this professional, market-led consulting group, then send your cv to the consultant advising on these appointments: Fiona Hackett, at Gwynn & Brown, 24 Fitzroy Square, London W1P 5HJ. Closing date for receipt of applications: 6 November 1987.

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## LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

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TIP TOP COLLEGE LEAVERS  
FOR TIP TOP JOBS

Brilliant opportunities for professional young secretaries with SH/Typing/WP. For those who are smart, organised, keen to learn, have lots of common sense and initiative, this could be the first step on a golden ladder.

Ring Sally Owens or Mary Pettit on 01-235 8427  
4 Port Street London SW1

K NIGHTSBRIDGE  
SECRETARIES ESHOPPING FOR A NEW  
CAREER

We are staying open until 10pm TONIGHT to enable you to combine your last night shopping in Knightsbridge with finding a new job. We have a wealth of exciting and challenging vacancies. Salaries range from £2,500 to £15,000 p.a. We look forward to meeting you TONIGHT for a glass of wine to discuss how we can help you with your next permanent or temporary position.

R.S.V.P. 01-235 8427  
4 Port Street London SW1

K NIGHTSBRIDGE  
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PA/SEC

£12,000 ++  
Demanding Chairman would like an elegant, sparkling P.A. to fulfil his needs. With your enthusiasm and keen sense of humour, you will succeed in this growing well known interesting Company.

Ring Sally Owens or Mary Pettit on 01-235 8427  
4 Port Street London SW1

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## DEDICATED SECRETARIES

Progress from the Shorthand/Typist to P.A./Secretary

At Thames Appointments we aim to help you in your progress of a sound P.A./Secretarial career. We currently have a number of exciting opportunities within small to multinational organisations from West End to City where your skills and experience gained to date will be fully utilised. Ideally aged 20+ you will currently be using shorthand/audio and word processing and be earning a salary in the range of £9,500.

So if you feel ready to take the next step on the career ladder and nobody else seems to care call us today to arrange an initial interview or send your C.V. to: Thames Appointments, 16 Hanover Square, W1. Telephone: 01-491 4764/4844.

THAMES APPOINTMENTS

### TEMPORARIES SUPERVISOR

**£18,000 package**

In the heart of London, working with an established host of higher calibre temporary secretarial and computing staff. You'll join as successful team as you're likely to find in our industry: talented, personable, very smart and positively competitive.

Your manager has a big, well-founded reputation in the recruitment industry and is a great teacher.

This is neither an opening for a novice nor for an older, battle-scarred veteran; ideal recruitment/personnel experience would be 2 or 3 years. You'll replace someone who is about to open yet another brand new Angles branch office in South London.

Please call me, Maureen Donnelly, Director,  
Office Angels Limited,  
Wells House, 79 Wells Street, London W1.  
01-734 1200

**Office Angels**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Librarian/  
Records  
Supervisor

Lonrho Plc is a major international trading company with over 800 companies in over 80 countries.

Due to an impending retirement, we wish to recruit an experienced librarian/records supervisor to be responsible for central filing. Experience may have been gained in a commercial/financial environment, or in a public library, or the Armed Services.

The records in the Central Filing Department are based on Lektivores. Methods of storage and retrieval require overhaul and updating. Candidates should possess an innovative approach and, preferably, a knowledge of word processing.

Salary, and terms and conditions of employment, which include an annual bonus and medical insurance, are in line with top international company practice.

Please apply, with full career/personal details, quoting reference No. V.406, to:

The Group Personnel Manager,  
LONRHO Plc  
Cheapside House,  
138 Cheapside, London EC2V 6BL

PA/Secretary to  
Managing Director

£12,000

Berkshire based

Our task is to find a mature and capable Personal Assistant to work for the Managing Director of a major organisation, leading the market in its field.

Based at the prestigious new headquarters in Berkshire we are offering you every opportunity to apply your well developed secretarial skills at Executive level. You will already be used to handling confidential matters with tact, dealing with Directors in a confident manner, and able to coordinate the running of the office with efficiency and professionalism. And with a smile.

Of course, having already worked at senior level, you will appreciate the need for flexibility and dedication to this role and be prepared to work irregular hours as required.

Excellent benefits include five weeks' holiday, BUPA and Life Assurance, a contributory Pension scheme and subsidised restaurant.

Austin Knight Selection has been retained to advise on this appointment. Please telephone our consultant, Karen Fitch on 0784 31242 (days) or 01-979 0898 (evenings/weekends) or write to her at Austin Knight Selection, Knightway House, Band Lane, Egham, Surrey TW20 9NX.  
Quoting reference YS282.

Austin  
Knight  
Selection

## BANK ON OUR EXPERIENCE

Bank on our experience. We have had eight years specialising in temporary assignments for proven PAs with good shorthand and WP skills. We can offer immediate and continuous temporary work throughout the winter at very good rates.

Carrington House, 130 Regent St.,  
LONDON W1 Tel: 01-439 0601  
(Entrance in Regent Place above Iberia Airways)

MacBlain  
NASH  
Temporary  
SecretariesPORTMAN  
RECRUITMENT (WEST END)

## OFFICE MANAGER/PA £12,000

An unusual and challenging opening exists within this friendly but very professional firm of Management Consultants. They require a PA with a difference, who will not only keep on top of the regular flow of secretarial work, but also act as Office Manager. Duties will include organising stationery, equipment, travel, invoicing, presentation and practically anything else that arises. Applicants must have a strong admin and communicative background as well as sound WP and typing skills. The position would suit most suitably a lively but well organised PA who is looking for more involvement in the next post.

For details call Alison Brown.

Portman put care into careers

01-434 9907

Portman Recruitment Services (UK) Limited

RUN THE SHOW  
£12,000

Excellent opportunity for ambitious young SH/Secretary wishing to move into an Office Management role for this Chelsea based Company.

AMERICAN PUBLISHERS  
£10,000

Become involved in the exciting world of Publishing as part of this advertising/sales team where your audio/WP skills and outgoing personality will be appreciated and rewarded. A European language useful.

CAVENDISH PERSONNEL 01-486 7897

## DIRECTORS' SECRETARIES

**£15,000 + BONUS**

An exciting opportunity exists for a PA/Secretary to assist the newly appointed Chairman in an old-established and highly successful city finance house. He is enthusiastic, forward thinking and an extremely good delegator who needs a front-liner, able to liaise with clients and a good organiser to plan hectic schedule.

01-629 9323

**UP TO £12,000  
PA 22-ish**

A fantastic job with your own salary plus bonus. An important role in the marketing of a new product. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the office and will be required to manage the office staff. The successful candidate will be required to manage the office staff. The successful candidate will be required to manage the office staff.

01-589 8807  
JOYCE GUINNESS

**YOUNG SECRETARY  
£8,500**

A bright college leaver is required to work for a City firm. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the office and will be required to manage the office staff. The successful candidate will be required to manage the office staff.

01-589 8807  
JOYCE GUINNESS

**NO SHORTHAND!  
£11,500**

The Computer Co. in W8 needs a PA with excellent shorthand skills. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the office and will be required to manage the office staff. The successful candidate will be required to manage the office staff.

01-589 8807  
JOYCE GUINNESS

**COOL  
DEAL**

**£12,000 +  
Mortgage**

Working as PA to the Head of Treasury of a newly established European Bank will put you right in the middle of the financial City. He runs a dealing room of eight young dealers and needs a very flexible, fast-moving young secretary to help co-ordinate it.

Background and skills are less important than the ability to carry out a wide range of responsibilities quickly, calmly and with a sense of humour. Future plans mean there will be good opportunities for outstanding secretaries to move into a more front line role.

Skills: 80/80 Age: 22-25

City Office  
000 0286

ANGELA MORIMER

**Executive Potential?  
£11,000 + bonus**

Secretarial positions leading to management are rare but this position in one of the leading TV companies can offer a career minded secretary the opportunity to follow the admin route. Supporting sales and marketing at senior level you will be involved in new business development and policy making. You must be educated, have at least two years good secretarial experience and be willing to train on the computer. Determination and the ability to liaise effectively at all levels is essential.

Age: 20-25 Skills: 100/60

**RECRUITMENT COMPANY**  
5 GARRICK STREET  
COVENT GARDEN  
TEL: 01-331 1220

**TV CHANNEL**

PA - Chief Executive needs a multi talented PA with excellent secretarial and organisational abilities, relevant background and experience at senior level. £12,000

**INTERNATIONAL MUSIC**

PA/Secretary to work closely with important music man. Liaison with people, etc. £10,000

**ADVERTISING**

Receptionist - mature, experienced person for prestigious ad agency. £10,000

**Pathfinders**  
25 MADOCK STREET, W1  
TEL: 020 3022

**SECRETARY/PA  
£12,000**

Are you a discreet, self-starter who enjoys taking responsibility? Do you have good admin and word processing skills? If so you could be organising the two Partners of a small firm of Chartered Accountants, handling all their correspondence, calls and visits.

You must have experience, a superb telephone manner and be able to work flexibly in a small team. Experience of an IBM pc would be useful.

Please write enclosing a CV to

**TRENDELL  
ROCHE**

128, Great Portland St, London W1N 5PH

**BE IN FASHION!**

Looking for your first position in the fashion industry? If you are responsible, energetic, ambitious, have excellent shorthand, typing and word processing skills, and would enjoy a challenging environment in one of the world's best known modelling agencies, then call Maria on

01 722 2131

**WP OPERATOR**

This small friendly Insurance Company requires a good typed/WP operator preferably with experience of £10,000-25,000 p.a. The successful applicant will be responsible for the day to day running of the office and will be required to manage the office staff. The successful candidate will be required to manage the office staff.

**SET SET GIRL RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS**  
37/39 Eastcheap, London EC3  
01 623 3216

**RUN THE SHOW  
£12,000**

Excellent opportunity for ambitious young SH/Secretary wishing to move into an Office Management role for this Chelsea based Company.

**AMERICAN PUBLISHERS  
£10,000**

Become involved in the exciting world of Publishing as part of this advertising/sales team where your audio/WP skills and outgoing personality will be appreciated and rewarded. A European language useful.

**CAVENDISH PERSONNEL** 01-486 7897

**ROYAL COLLEGE  
OF PHYSICIANS**

has an immediate vacancy for a

**SOCIAL SECRETARY**  
AGED 30+  
On Scale £12,800 - £15,250

The person appointed to this new post will be responsible to the Secretary and Honorary Officers for the day to day running of the office and will be required to manage the office staff. The successful candidate will be required to manage the office staff.

30 Year Vacancy, 5 Weeks Holiday  
Free 3-Weeks Lunches

Applicants should send their CVs to the Personnel and Office Manager of the Royal College of Physicians, 11 St Andrews Place, London NW1 4AE. Tel: 01-462 1761.

**EXECUTIVE PA  
IN FELTHAM**

Dynamic and fast-moving international company requires an exceptional PA to assist and support the Deputy MD. Excellent secretarial skills are a prerequisite here as is the ability to anticipate the busy executive's every move. You will have a winning personality and the confidence to deal with people at all levels. Excellent salary and benefits appropriate for a top level executive PA.

**DIRECTORS' SECRETARIES**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS  
01-629 9323

**THE COLLEGE  
LEAVERS  
COLUMN**

Specialists for the 19-25 year olds

**TOURISM**

A national tourism organisation based in London seeks a young secretary to join their friendly promotions operation. Emphasis on international with good team spirit. 40/50 wpm any WP. Will cross train.

**PERSONAL ASSISTANT**

Account Director for go ahead PR consultancy requires a junior secretary to help provide support on a number of major accounts which are being handled. Very much a career opportunity. The position involves research, dealing with clients and place of telephone work. 90/40.

**USA OIL**

A young team of oil experts seeks a secretary to join their small friendly team. The company are large and trade internationally with the USA. Lots of international work. French or any European Language an asset. 90/50 or 50+ WP. Salary very high, package excellent, 9.30 start.

01-437 6314

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APPOINTMENTS LTD

**TYPEHOUSE  
SECRETARIAL RECRUITMENT**

**"A FRESH APPROACH"**

FOR ALL LEVELS OF TEMPORARY & PERMANENT SECRETARIAL OPPORTUNITIES

CALL US ON: 01 870 0656

**PA/SECRETARY  
TO FINANCIAL  
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# House market remains steady amid City gales

By Christopher Warman  
Property Correspondent

On the day last week when the London stock market suffered its greatest losses, an English businessman paid £2.3 million for a five-bedroom house in Mayfair, and exchanged contracts 72 hours later.

This, according to the selling agents Lassmanns, is a pertinent example highlighting the fact that prime London property should remain unaffected by the financial tremors shaking the foundations.

This optimistic view is shared by other estate agents, and while it is tempting to say "they would, wouldn't they", they will have to live with their advice.

The telephone at Knight Frank & Rutley have not been very busy in the past few days, but the firm has still sold a number of houses. Bill Yates, head of the residential division, admits that there is a coordination between house prices and people's ability to raise funds. "But the balance is achieved over a long period of time. We have long expected a levelling off of prices and I suspect that that is what we will see in the forthcoming months."

The firm takes the view that the underlying strength in the market still exists so long as the economy of the country is moving in the right direction, and there is a tendency for people to regard bricks and mortar as a safe bet. Knight Frank and Rutley say the market will remain strong for good quality period houses so long as the present enormous shortage of supply against demand exists. The barometer has some considerable way to swing before demand and supply are matched. At the same time they would welcome a steady of prices in the house market after the last few years, which have seen unpredictable increases.

Outside London, Paul Jackson of Jackson & Jackson, agents largely in Hampshire, also doubts whether the stock market situation will have an immediate effect on house prices. "Admittedly, one or two buyers, particularly those acquiring second homes or holiday homes in the New Forest area, may become a little cautious as the funds for purchasing such properties often are realized from stocks and shares." He believes that house prices will continue to rise for some time, but if the uncertainty in the City were to continue, it is likely that house prices would rise at a far slower rate over the next 12 months than in the preceding two years.

Charlotte Farquharson, of the London agents Farrer Sted and Glyn, expects the London property market to remain the safest and securest form of investment, being the cream of prime residential property. "We will not be seeing as high capital growth as in the previous

five years, but nor should we be seeing a drop in value."

The general feeling is that the rate of increase in house prices will now slow down after a period which has seen average increases of about 15 per cent for the past two years, and about 25 per cent in London and the South-East.

The Big Bang has had a noticeable effect in certain areas of London. The agents Townhouse have changed its impact on the property market in Wimbledon, where in the past 12 months the rental price of a four bedroomed family house in the village has increased from £1,000-£1,200 to £1,300-£1,700 a month.

There are unlikely in the near future to be price increases of the spectacular sort reported by Winkworth, who have more than 40 offices in the London area. The way that people have moved from a congested area to one a little further out, or less fashionable, is illustrated by a family house in Eland Road, Battersea. Winkworth sold the house in 1983 for £47,000, and two years later sold it again for £95,000. In 1986 it was sold by another agent for £120,000 and resold by Winkworth this year for £274,000, after the owner had spent some £40,000 on the property.

If house prices did continue to rise at the present rate, the North/South divide,

already wide, could become an "unbridgeable chasm", according to a report by Britain's largest relocation company, Homequity. It paints a frightening picture, with the differential between prices in different parts of the country likely to quadruple within five years, bringing serious consequences for job mobility.

As an example, projections prepared by the company show that while a typical two bedroom terrace house in York-shire, currently valued at £20,000, would be worth £30,772 in 1992, the same house in Greater London would increase in value from its present £85,000 to £259,000.

The projected increase, particularly in Greater London, the South-East and East Anglia, is very high. A three bedroom semi-detached house in Greater London, now worth £100,000, would increase in value to around £300,000 in 1992, while in the South-East the increase would be from £77,000 to £225,000, and in East Anglia from £50,000 to £135,000.

Explaining the figures, Patrick Montgomery, managing director of Homequity, says: "In the past 10 years, house values in the North have gone up by between 200 and 300 per cent. In the South, however, prices have gone up by between 400 and 500 per cent."

More property on page 42

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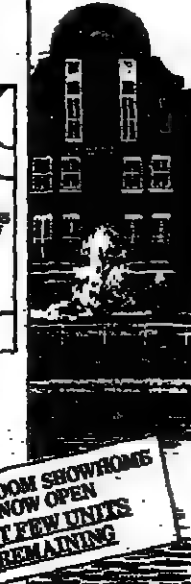
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## BOXING

# Vaca's style should present Honeyghan with few problems

By Srikanth Sen, Boxing Correspondent

Lloyd Honeyghan, Britain's World Boxing Council and International Boxing Federation welterweight champion, should not be unduly troubled by equal Jim Watt's record of four successful world title defences when he meets Jorge Vaca, of Mexico, a replacement for Bobby Joe Young, of United States, at the Grand Hall, Wembley, tonight.

There is some doubt about Honeyghan's hands, which have been giving him trouble after his bout with Hatcher in Marbella in August. There has been talk that they may not have many more fights left in them.

Honeyghan's trainer Bobby Neill, believes that his charge is almost on the point of realising his full potential and banishes fears about his hands. While he was training in the Catskills, New York State, earlier this month Neill bought him special protective gloves that Mike Tyson uses and maintains they kept his hands in good shape. He has been knocked out inside eight rounds in all his five defeats in 48 contests.

At first sight Vaca's record looks impressive: 37 of his wins have ended within ten rounds, and one of his victims, Gerardo Derbes, never regained consciousness after

## Tale of the tape

Honeyghan	Vaca
Age	27
Weight	10st 6lb
Height	5ft 9in
Reach	70in
Style	Boxer
Wins	38
Losses	5
Draws	4
Knockouts	13
Defences	13
Titles	1
Opponents	43
Records	14

Honeyghan: wins, 0, draws, 4.  
Vaca: 48 wins, 5 defeats, 1 draw.

his third meeting with the Mexican champion, and died a few days later. This suggests that Vaca wastes little time in going for his man and does not mind trading blows. Which should suit Honeyghan down to the ground, where Vaca should find himself before too long.

The Mexican has never boxed before a non-Mexican crowd and has been twice knocked out in two rounds. Those defeats were at the hands of Herman Montez and Juan Elizondo, whom Sibson stopped in one round. Vaca avenged those defeats stopping Elizondo in seven and Montez in three rounds. The defeat by Montez is significant for he was no more than a lightweight.

His last defence of the

Mexican title was against Juan Villa, who was knocked out by Britain's Sylvester Mittee in two rounds three years ago. If Villa is still challenging for the Mexican title it does not exactly say very much for Mexican welterweights today.

Still, a Mexican can never be written off. Even if Vaca does not have the boxing and punching class of Pipino Cuevas or Carlos Palomino, most Mexicans are capable of pulling out a winning punch until they are safely counted out. Also, Vaca could be hoping to put on a really good show for José Suleiman, the Mexican president of the World Boxing Council, who is here for their annual convention. In Mexico, Vaca is considered to be the best local champion at all weights — though that, of course, excludes the two Mexican world champions.

While Vaca's best known opponents have been seniors — Cuevas, whom he dispatched in two rounds, and Saul Mamby, the 40-year-old former world light-welterweight champion, whom he beat on points — two of Honeyghan's challengers were also long past their best: Bumphus and Hatcher, two light-welterweights. Besides, Hatcher had just been given a pasting by Frankie Warren, the light-welter.

It took a full welterweight, Maurice Blocker, of the United States, to make Honeyghan work for 12 rounds and many, including Terry Marsh, thought that the British boxer lost that bout. Vaca, though a full welterweight, is not as good a boxer as Blocker, or else Mickey Duff, who is Honeyghan's manager and the smartest matchmaker in the world, would not have brought him over at this crucial big money-making stage of Honeyghan's career.

Honeyghan has his eyes on multi-million dollar bouts with Mark Breland, the American Olympic champion, should he win back his World Boxing Association title from Marlon Starling, and Sugar Ray Leonard, should he want to make another comeback.

## Priority for Coddell is to stay in the ring

As the holder of a boxing promoter's licence, Pat Coddell is delighted to put into storage for a while yet. The priority, now that the Midlands, aged 34, has regained his British super featherweight title is to carry on boxing.

A second defeat at the hands of the Manchester-based Najib Dabho, who had knocked Coddell out in the first round in last year, would have been the end of the line for the former Olympic bronze medal winner and world championship contender. But the ninth round stoppage of the Moroccan-born Dabho means that Coddell, from Warley, is not finished yet. "I'm going to have a rest, then try to defend my title, which would

give me a Lonsdale belt out-right, and then decide about my future," he said.

The first contest was a controversial affair on Dabho's home territory, but at the Aston Villa Leisure Centre late on Monday night, Coddell had the crowd on his side. He had to withstand another ferocious opening from the champion but then took control, and with Dabho, aged 28, bleeding heavily from the nose and taking a lot of punishment, the referee, Sid Nathan, stopped the contest with just over two rounds to go.

The title defence is likely to be against Bradford's John Doherty, but Coddell is not ruling out a third meeting with Dabho.

## YACHTING

## Rescuers pick up Tabarly

By Barry Pickhall

Three days after the French yachtsman Daniel Giliard was lost from his 75ft catamaran Jet Services, the La Baule-Dakar multi-hull race came close to claiming two more lives when the trimaran Côte d'Or, sailed by Eric Tabarly and his brother Patrick, capsized on Monday.

The accident happened just before dawn as the 75ft multi-hull, which Tabarly was also forced to abandon in the same area during last year's Route du Rhum Transatlantic race, first broached then flipped over while running under spinnaker before 18-20 knot winds.

The two brothers were spotted clinging to the wreckage by Olivier Moussy, now placed third aboard the British-designed 80-foot trimaran, Laiterie Mount St Michael, who alerted the Portuguese Navy which diverted a patrol boat, the Zambeze, to pick them up. They were reported by the rescuers to be safe and sound.

Yesterday, Loïc and Bruno Peyron were the third and fourth overall for the lead, 1,000 miles from the Senegal finish line, some 400 miles ahead of Moussy.

## Withdrawal may harm Scott's England future

By Nicholas Haring

Kenny Scott, Polycell Kingston's 6ft 9in power forward, may have jeopardised his future international career by crying off last week's England trip to Greece two hours before the party were due to congregate at Heathrow.

It was just as David Timms, the England coach, was preparing to leave his Hemel Hempstead home that he took the call from Scott saying that he could not travel for tomorrow's game against the European champions in Salonika for "personal reasons."

The most exciting young player to be selected by England in recent seasons, Scott, aged 21, had proved himself an invaluable member of the team in his 11 internationals. He had cost a then record British transfer fee of £12,000 when he moved from Birmingham to Kingston before the start of last season.

Kevin Cadie, the Kingston coach, says that he had no inkling of Scott's intentions when his club's squad travelled back from Sunday's Carlsberg League game at Sunderland, but Paul Simpson, Scott's England colleague, who did, warned John Lloyd, the chairman of the international committee, to expect a withdrawal.

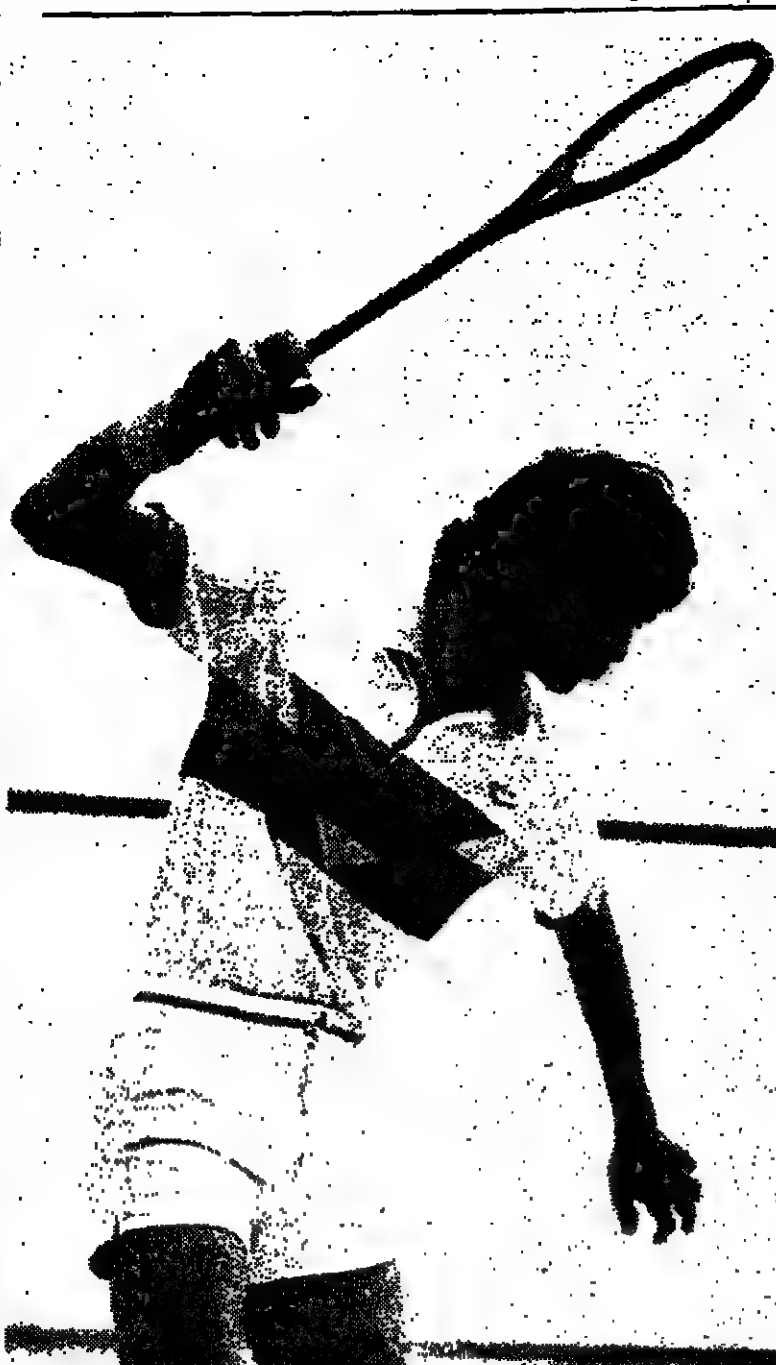
"I had no sooner rung Timms to tell him that he took Scott's call," Lloyd said yesterday. "This is disgraceful. When Dave gets back the international committee will have to discuss what actions will be taken, but at this stage it's difficult to say what the repercussions will be."

Scott's personal reasons are believed to involve the return of his girlfriend, Erin, from America. "Apparently he felt he should be with her for the next couple of days but it is very upsetting to lose a player at such short notice for that sort of reason," Lloyd said. "I can't really believe he has thrown up a chance of facing the European champions at the semi-final stage."

"Kenny is one of those sort of people that occasionally doesn't get his priorities right. He does have difficulty putting things into perspective. It's very disappointing."

The one other England player to drop out, Mike Spaid, of Portsmouth — who had injured a hand — had warned Timms in a letter that he would not be able to travel for tomorrow's game, but Trevor Gordon, of Blackwell, for his first cap as replacement.

## Bitterness and internal rivalry blight Pakistan's defence of world team title



Price of success: Jansher now finds himself caught in the dynamic crossfire

## Favourable draw for England

The England squad were yesterday celebrating a quarter-final draw for the Royal Albert Hall this evening against the ICI Perspex World Team Squash Championships which gives them their best possible chance of success but which places almost no other group or person connected to the event (Colin McQuillan writes).

England will play a quarter-final at the Royal Albert Hall this evening against Canada, who many consider lucky to have qualified ahead of a surprisingly accomplished Finnish team from Pool B, and should progress to a semi-final on Friday evening against second-seeded New Zealand who tomorrow play a more problematical quarter-final against Egypt.

"You may not have noticed, but I had my hand in the bag as well," the England coach, Jonathan Barrington joked after the draw was made by David York-Long, the championships adjudicator.

There was not much joking from the other half of the draw in which the top

seeds, Pakistan, are scheduled to meet Australia in a semi-final on Friday that the most would have chosen as a classically balanced final for Saturday afternoon.

"The seedings are based on results from the last championship two years back," complained Ross Thorne, Australian player-manager, who also faces the strongest quarter-final challenge from Sweden on Thursday, while Pakistan play Singapore at the same stage.

"On current form we could have expected second seeding with Chris Dittmar, Rodney Martin, Chris Robertson and myself all in good form," Thorne said. New Zealand have Ross Norman in doubtful form, Stuart Daveport and relatively weak third string alternatives and Pakistan a remarkably strong squad of Jansher Khan, Jahangir Khan, Umar Hayat Khan and Qamar Zaman.

Match: Jansher v Pakistan v Singapore; Australia v Sweden; England v Canada; New Zealand v Egypt.

## Old blood stirred up as Jansher heralds new order

By Colin McQuillan

There is considerable discontent in the Pakistan squad at present defending the ICI World Team Squash Championships which move into the quarter-finals at the Royal Albert Hall today. It is not a mood likely to benefit the opposition. Rather it will promote an internal rivalry likely to overwhelm outsiders almost as a by-product.

Jansher Khan, who last week added the senior World Open title to the junior world championship he won in Brisbane 18 months ago, has been officially required to adopt premier listing above Jahangir Khan who ruled world squash for nearly six years and is still holding on by his fingernails to top spot on the world rankings of the International Squash Players Association (ISPA).

Since Jansher, aged 18, defeated Jahangir, now nearing the venerable age of 24, in each of their last three meetings (3-0 in the Hong Kong semi-finals, 3-2 in the Pakistan final and 3-1 in the Birmingham World Open semi-finals), his elevation to first string for Pakistan on the current form of the International Squash Rackets Federation (ISRF) seems straightforward enough.

## Australians mounting strong challenge

Pakistan squash matters are rarely so simple, however. There is the matter of elder respect, upon which much of Islamic life depends.

There is the more pragmatic matter of maintaining a playing order best suited to retain the world team title under tremendous challenge from the dynamic young Australian squad. And, perhaps more important still, there is the matter of old blood between the squash dynasties of Peshawar.

Jahangir's pedigree is well-enough documented. He is, in equine parlance, out of Hashim and Azam by way of Roshan, with considerable input from Nasrullah and Rahmat.

A composite of everything best in the British game, he was unapproachable until Ross Norman took over his world title in Toulouse last year. Since then he has lost once to Australia's Rodney Martin and three times to Jansher.

In the same 12 months Jansher has blown across the squash landscape like a fast-rooting vine on the wings of a storm.

His defeat of Australia's Chris

Dittmar in the World Open final was a glorious finale to a run of successive major tournament wins. "I saw No. 1," he insisted immediately.

Jansher is related to Jahangir only tenuously by the three-times marriage links that connect all tribal hill societies in Pakistan.

## Claims inspiration from brother

He is the younger brother of Mohibullah Khan, a great player now languishing in British prisons for drug trafficking offences he has constantly denied, from whom the new champion claims an inspiration noticeably similar to that provided for Jahangir at the turn of the 1960s by the death of his elder brother, Tarsan, from a heart attack on an Australian squash court.

But between Jansher and Mohibullah is Aftab Khan, a third brother, who is said to have been the man who kept Jahangir out of the Pakistan team in 1979 because, at 15, the boy who went on to win the individual title from the qualifying rounds could not be allowed to displace older and more respected players.

Now it is Jahangir demanding respect and, as he sees it, receiving satisfaction neither from the ISRF nor from Jansher.

"Last time the ISRF changed our order to suit ISPA rankings. This time they have changed it for what they say is current form," Jahangir stormed. "Next time perhaps they should come to Pakistan and choose our team for us."

## Jahangir infuriated by racket contact denial

Jahangir infuriated him by refusing to acknowledge a racket contact to Jahangir's chin at a vital point in the marvellously competitive World Open semi-final.

"It was a cheap victory. I will reverse things in the British Open next April," he said.

The response from Jansher on court was cool stare and a spray of perspiration from his fiercely-shaken head. Off the court his cry is equally frustrating to a once-inviolable champion.

"I saw No. 1," is the simple irrefutable claim of the new world champion.

## TENNIS: GOVERNING BODY ARE BLAMED AS SPONSORS SHOW THEIR DISSENT

## Grunfeld reacts with a win

Amanda Grunfeld, of Manchester, determined to prove herself after being overlooked for a place in the Maureen Connolly Trophy team last month, became the first British player to reach the third round of the ITA women's indoor tournament at Bramhall, with a 6-4, 6-2 win over Carin Jexell, of Sweden.

The 20-year-old left-hander used her home courts at the Matchpoint Centre to her advantage. "I am playing better now than ever before," she said after the match. "Being left out of the Maureen Connolly Trophy team has acted as a spur for me to do better."

Grunfeld was referring to the British 21-and-under team which scored an historic 6-5 win over the United States last month.

Following a year in which she had her undoubted right to make a name for herself in Europe and America to boost her world ranking — presently 319 — Grunfeld now knows how hard she will have to work to win a place in next year's team. "The foreign players aren't really that much better than us," she said. "I now have much more faith in myself."

## Grand Prix reputation faces up to new breakthrough threat

From Richard Evans, Hong Kong

After years of dissatisfaction at the way they have been treated by the game's governing body, the organizers of the Seiko Classic here in Hong Kong are threatening to pull out of the Nabisco Grand Prix and run a special event.

The failure of the Men's International Professional Tennis Council to come up with replacements for three adored players — Jimmy Connors, Andre Gomez and Aaron Krickstein — only served to convince the tournament director, Ken Catton, that tossing the official line is a waste of time.

"We have been applying for an upgrade to super series status for years and have got nowhere," Catton said after booting his draw at the 11th hour with a personal phone call

to one of his former champions, Eliot Teltscher. "We have been 100 per cent loyal to the Grand Prix until now but they have not been loyal to us. There is plenty of money in this town, no matter what the stock market is doing, and we are now seriously considering running an event outside the Grand Prix format."

If Catton carries out his threat, the MPTC administrator, Marshall Happer, will be faced with two unpleasant truths. First, the MPTC have only themselves to blame if Hong Kong break away because they have constantly ignored the legitimate requests of an event that has both the stadium facilities and the organization to warrant Super Series status.

Second, there is a trend emerging here that, if it continues,

## Mandlikova decision

Prague (AFP) — Hana Mandlikova, who had been expected to seek Australian citizenship, will continue to play tennis for Czechoslovakia, the *Rude Pravo* newspaper reported here.

Mandlikova, ranked fifth in the world, married a Czech

slovak-born Australian tennis owner, Jan Sedlak, last year. She said that although she would spend more time in Australia she would continue to defend Czechoslovakia's colours in the Federation Cup and hoped to play in next year's Olympic Games tournament in Seoul.

us, could seriously undermine the Grand Prix's position as the only recognized world circuit. Antwerp, going it alone from the first, has established itself successfully outside the MPTC jurisdiction and the AT & T Challenge in Atlanta is now regarded as more than just another exhibition.

Add Hong Kong to the \$2-million event list. Tinarri is planning in Stuttgart next year — to be run in competition with the Benson and Hedges at Wembley — and seeds for a new maverick tour will have been sown.

The Grand Prix, which was Jack Kramer's brainchild back in 1970, is the best thing that has happened to a fragmented and crisis-ridden sport since Ivan Lendl asking for a reduced commitment next year and seeking other diversions, the MPTC must take heed of the danger.

Meanwhile, rain, which halted Jeremy Bates' first round match against Mark Kratzman, failed to arrive in time to rescue Andrew Castle who saved five match points before going down 6-2, 4-6, 7-5 to the big West German teenager, Christian Smeets.

## BOBSLEIGHING

## Tout and Phipps miss out

For the first time the British Championships get underway today without the leading lights, Nick Phipps, the reigning champion, who won both the two- and four-man titles last year, and Mark Tout, his chief rival, are sitting out this week's domestic competition on the artificially refrigerated West German track at Altenberg.

Both have already been selected for the British Olympic team with the number three places for Calgary going to the winner of tomorrow's two-man race and Sunday's four-man competition.

Phipps, and his brakeman Alan Cearnos, start their season in earnest next week at the opening round of the Fosters World Cup Series on the new East German track at Altenberg.

They then return to Winterberg for the second round on November 13 before departing for a week's official training on the Olympic track in Calgary.

The remaining World Cup events are at Igls from December 9, Königssee (December 25) and Cervinia (January 14), with the European Championships at Sarajevo from January 23.

## Queen's Bench Division

## Burglary victim must replace meter

Regina v Midlands Electricity Board, Ex parte Busby  
Regina v Midlands Electricity Board, Ex parte Williamson  
Before Mr Justice Schiemann (Judgment October 26)

It was neither contrary to statute nor unreasonable for an electricity board to require a subscriber with a prepayment or token meter to pay for the cost of replacing the meter if it was stolen or damaged, to charge him for any money stolen and to cut off the supply of electricity if he did not pay.

Mr Justice Schiemann so held in the Queen's Bench Division in refusing applications by Leslie John Busby and Arthur Williamson for judicial review of decisions of the Midlands Electricity Board.

Mr Ramby de Mello for the applicants; Mr David Eady, QC and Mr Manuel Barca for the board.

MR JUSTICE SCHIEMANN said that Mr Busby had been a customer of the board since 1983. Initially he had a credit meter but was unable to pay his bills and rather than disconnect his electricity supply, as they were entitled to do, the board were prepared to continue the supply provided that the applicant had a coin prepayment meter, calibrated so that a

proportion of each coin inserted in the meter went to pay off the debt.

When the applicant moved house the board allowed him to receive electricity on the same terms, although they were entitled to refuse any supply until the old debt had been paid off.

In 1986 the applicant's home was burgled and money from the electricity meter was stolen. There was no reason to believe that the applicant was in any way to blame.

The board informed the applicant that by the terms of the agreement for the supply of electricity on a prepayment meter he was responsible for the money stolen and the cost of replacing the meter. If he was unable to pay immediately, he would be supplied electricity only on a token meter. If the applicant refused a token meter he would be disconnected.

The applicant claimed that the terms of the prepayment meter agreement were unenforceable because they were beyond the board's powers under the relevant statutes and were unreasonable on *Wednesbury* principles ([1948] 1 KB 223).

If the applicant were correct the result would be that when in future the board were faced with a customer who was unable to

meet his bill they would be more inclined to exercise their right to disconnect immediately, rather than grant a further extension of time, as the terms were intended to ensure that any further loss fell on the debtor alone.

However, there was nothing in the Electricity Acts 1947 and 1957, the Electricity Lighting Act 1926 or 1909 or the Electricity (Causes) Act 1899 to lead to the conclusion that Parliament had intended to prevent electricity boards entering agreements such as the one relied upon.

It could not be said that the board's action was unreasonable, as it was a commercial enterprise not a welfare agency. Whenever a debtor was granted an extension of time to pay or the debt written off the burden fell on other customers. The board had done their best for the applicant in allowing him to have the prepayment meter. It was not unreasonable that people with those meters should be responsible for them.

There was nothing to suggest that the applicant had been treated any differently from other subscribers using prepayment meters. As the board had done was say that if the applicant wanted more time to pay he had to have a token meter and they were entitled to do so without further discussion.

## Law Report October 28 1987

## New maxima for commercial matters

Practice Direction (Limitation of Time for Interlocutory Hearings)  
New maximum time estimates for interlocutory hearings were announced in a practice direction delivered by Mr Justice Hirst in the Commercial Court of the Queen's Bench Division on October 23.

## Counsel's brief duty

Regina v Francis  
In considering whether to use his undoubted right to make a second speech and sum up the prosecution evidence to the jury where a defendant who was represented by counsel gave no evidence and called none, prosecuting counsel should always remind themselves of the observations of Mr Justice Watkins, as he then was, in *R v Bryant and Ostry* (1978) 67 Cr App R 157, (163) that it was a right which it should only be rarely necessary to use, save possibly in long and complex cases, and whenever used should bear "the becoming hallmark of brevity".

Mr Justice Ognall, sitting with Lord Justice Groom-Johnson and Mr Justice Staughton, so stated on October 26 when the Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal of Glenn Francis against

his conviction on January 20, 1987 at Isleworth Crown Court (Mr Assistant Recorder Lawrence, QC and a jury) of theft, for which he was sentenced to three months imprisonment, suspended for one year.

His LORDSHIP said that the right of prosecuting counsel should only be exercised where the issues really justified it. In this case although the trial was very short in duration there were features justifying counsel's decision to address the jury a second time.

## Law Society exams

The Law Society examination results will be published in *The Times* on October 30. Copies of that issue will be on sale at 200, Gray's Inn Road from 9.30pm on Thursday, October 25.

HIS LORDSHIP said the Commercial Court judges had decided to prescribe stricter control of time limits for a trial period encompassing the legal year 1987 to 1988. The practice would be reviewed in the summer of 1988.

The efficient working of the system depended on accurate estimates of the time needed for a summons. Counsel and solicitors had to take special care in that respect. In future any summons which overran its estimate would probably be adjourned.

Subject only to the exception specified below, the Clerk to the Commercial Court would not accept estimates exceeding the following:

- 1 Summons to set aside service etc — 4 hours
  - 2 Order XIV — 4 hours
  - 3 Set aside judgment in default — 2 hours
  - 4 Set aside or vary injunction — 2 hours
  - 5 Amendment of pleadings — 1 hour
  - 6 Further discovery (including interrogatories) — 1 hour
  - 7 Further and better particulars — ½ hour
  - 8 Security for costs — ½ hour
- Those were maxima, not guidelines. Proper estimates in each category would often be

much shorter, and over-estimating was wasteful of the court's time and also of the opportunity for other litigants getting their summonses heard.

A longer time would only be allocated upon application in writing by counsel to the judge in charge of the Commercial List, or such other judge as he might nominate, specifying the extra time required and the reasons why.

In all cases, whatever their duration, written outlines of submissions, which could be in note form, should be submitted by both parties in advance. In cases submitted for two hours or more, the additional documents specified in the *Guide to Commercial Court Practice* would also be required.

All estimates should be made on the assumption that the judge would have read in advance the affidavits and all written submissions but not the exhibits.

This was only a further small step towards reducing the present unacceptable delays in the Commercial Court. It signified a determination continuing to enhance efficiency, although the scope for improvement, particularly in cutting waiting time for the longer trials, was limited by present resources.

The purpose of recent measures dealing with the requirements for the summonses for directions was to focus the attention of both practitioners and of the court at an early stage of the proceedings on steps designed to curtail the duration and expense of the trial especially through mutual exchanges in advance of information between the parties. That also tended to promote settlements.

In future the court would be unwilling to hear summonses for directions which did not comply with these requirements, and might also impose costs penalties.

It was not always appreciated that the new regime would require not only the exchange of experts' reports, but also, in the normal run of cases, the exchange of written statements of the oral evidence of intended witnesses of fact, subject to all groups' objections, such as in fraud cases.

The new Order 38, rule 2A had made it possible for the Commercial Court, together with the Chancery Division and the Official Referees' court, to break new ground in a procedure which should curtail the amount of oral evidence and also reduce the number of witnesses who eventually needed to be called.















